

PERSONAL

The middle classes from whom, for the most part, social workers are drawn, have limited experience of being a social worker's client. This I believe is one important factor in distinguishing the approach of the social services from that of the teaching profession to those who fall within their ambit. For we have, all of us, been taught; and we have therefore some basis of experience on which to rest the application of teaching theory to real life.

We can put ourselves in the shoes of our pupils. Social workers, on the other hand, having little knowledge of what it is like to be at the receiving end, tend to be somewhat schematic and rule-governed in their treatment of the real-life individuals who are their clients.

For example, I heard the other day of a young man who, with his wife, was hoping to adopt a baby. They got over all the first hurdles with the social services, and indeed came to like and respect the social worker with whom they were regularly in contact, though they quite often found it hard to understand his language.

They were allocated a baby, to their great delight; and then came the day

when they had to be prepared to go to court for the final adoption proceedings. A new social worker appeared, and everything turned on his assessment of their suitability.

The first question the new social worker asked of the young man was "What is your concept of parenting?" He, intelligent, articulate, desperately anxious not to put a foot wrong, had really no idea what to say. He stumbled through a few propositions containing words like "caring" and "concern", and then said he didn't know.

"What?" said the social worker, amazed. "Have you no concept of parenting, then?" "Well, no," said the young man.

Luckily, his ineptitude did not in the end cost him the baby. But what was he supposed to say? Such a question seems quite unfit to be put by one human to another. No one who had ever been a client himself could have asked it.

My youngest daughter, a student in Surrey, is in hospital near her college, cheerfully but slowly recovering from an operation on her knee. She too experiences difficulties with social workers. Last time I went to see her I lost my way, for the umpteenth time,



Mary Warnock

coming home in the dark, and ran into the back of a parked car while trying to read a sign post. So at present, and apparently for months to come, I have no car, and no means of making the complicated journey from Oxford without one.

Now the social worker comes round the ward from time to time questioning people about their visitors. "Who

comes to see you?" my daughter was asked. "Your mother? Your father? Your brothers and sisters?" "They come when they can," she replied.

The social worker is not interested in hearing that some are abroad, some have no cars, some are musicians with unpredictable working hours, some vice chancellors, and so on. She writes the client down as "neglected".

"How long ago did you leave home?" is the next question. That is difficult. "I left home when I went to college," my daughter rashly said, meaning that, till then, she had been at home all the time, terms and holidays alike.

But has she left home now? She still has a room at home, and piles of junk there. She comes home in the vacations. "Leaving home" sounds so final, even aggressive: it suggests a clean break.

Meanwhile the social worker writes down that she left home two years ago, and moves on to the next bed, shaking her head sadly. There seems to have been a profound failure to communicate here. Certain fixed and immutable categories are applied, and the person, the actual living individual, slips out through the meshes of the net.

Now teachers, I believe, do not allow this sort of thing to happen to anything like the same extent. A good teacher is one who teaches each individual pupil, despite his background and circumstances, indifferently (and "indifferently" does not mean "carelessly" or "uncaringly", but "equally" or "fairly"). Whereas the social worker is trained to think of the circumstances of the client, the teacher has to think of *him*, the individual who presents himself as someone to be taught.

For the social worker, the client's situation defines him; for the teacher it is his character, his abilities and disabilities, his capacities and his interests. And so it is that a child at school may escape from his family, his parents, his home, and become someone in his own right. A client cannot. Apart from his background, where he lives, what he eats, what he does for money, he is nothing.

There is thus a bleak determinism about being a client. Slotted into a general category, there seems no chance to explain, or say "It's different for me". Asked questions to which there is no answer, there seems no chance to try to get at the truth.

DIARY

Old haunts and older memories for the reluctant guest

To the House of Commons with trepidation. I'm never keen on even entering the building these days, but I am invited to the wedding of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education and the Association of Teachers in Penal Establishments. The two parliamentary priests presiding at the ceremony are my former Select Committee comrades, Martin Flannery and Harry Greenwood, so I feel I can't refuse.

I am besieged by prison education officers who insist that they get on famously with the custodial staff of the Prison Officers' Association and that I'm quite wrong to suggest otherwise. Even at Armley jail, the prison I gazed at out of the window daily as a teenager at Leeds Grammar School while struggling with Cicero and Thucydides, they insist problems are all sorted out. In some places, as we recommended in our report, the prison officers are even throwing pots in the prisoners' art rooms.

I apologize for even suggesting there was trouble at the jail, and creep upstairs to take a peek at the new Select Committee, struggling, at its

first public session of the new Parliament, to find out what will happen to British culture, when the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties are dismembered. I find Sir William, my distinguished successor, dwarfed by his new Chair and scrutinizing the bleak future of the arts on Merseyside, where, we are told (I paraphrase) that the discreet and charming bourgeoisie of Southport seem less than anxious to subsidize ethnic Liverpoolian culture. Sir William remains inscrutable, and it is yet to be seen how he will cope with the gathering hordes of English suburban philistines.

Braving the Philistines

I miss Sir William's first witness, Dr Richard Hoggart. But it matters not, since I have already heard his outspoken lecture at London University Institute of Education last week, castigating Thatcherian philistinism and all it stands for. The lecture is billed as something to do with George Orwell, but in fact it sticks to its title - "The Way It Is Now".

Richard went to one of the less fashionable grammar schools in Leeds, south of Armley jail, and therefore has quite as well-focused a view of the tribal groupings that still make up England in 1984, as Orwell did coming out of Eton and Wigan 40 years ago. He describes our country with nice observation as "a family with the wrong members in control", and cable TV as heralding a "communications wasteland". The audience is full of the sort of Eng. Lit. folk with whom once, in Licky Jim's days, our university



Philistines Greenwood (left) and Flannery

Policy paradox in Muffett country

I hate to harp on Hereford and Worcester, and I'm even more disinclined to congratulate Liberals. But on this occasion I fear I must. The local Liberals have done us all a service in printing out of our old friend Dr Muffett, the small print of the HMI's follow-up letter to their report which criticized the level of provision by the county.

It exposes the fundamental flaw in the Government's educational policy. One area of Government (the HMI) is telling Hereford and Worcester that its primary schools are underfunded, and its modern languages cut-back, and its provision for caretakers and foreign

assistants unsatisfactory, and its advisers under-strength; and its special education referrals discouraged, and so on and so on and so on. The other side (the Patrick Jenkin one) is staring them that they're doing very nicely with their cut-backs; thank you.

It just doesn't add up. In fact the inspectors implicitly praise the Hereford and Worcester teachers for doing rather well with inadequate resources. Which makes the Muffett assault on them (see last week) all the more puzzling. Perhaps the explanation lies in the HMI's PR: which is said to be in Nottingham, that was that.

UNESCO... flawed lifeline

Richard is unusual among British academics in having done a spell in UNESCO, and has spoken quite as forcefully on the accumulated sins and wickednesses of that institution also. Indeed, it was probably his initial criticisms, stoked later by those of Lord (John) Vane, which started the current pressure from the Right to get Britain to follow the US and abandon UNESCO to its fate.

For some years I have found myself on the British UNESCO advisory committee and been regularly disappointed at the taxpayers' expense, immense paper mountains of illiterate gobbledegook, of the kind which gives you a headache even to read the first sentence. So I was not surprised when we were summoned recently by the Government's twin UNESCO ministers - Ray Whitney (ex-MPS and in charge of information) and Tim Raison (well, and in charge of A.D.) Should we do it? Reagan? I was sorely tempted to advise just that UNESCO, we were reminded, is rather like cancer: research - there are more people living off it than dying from it. But on balance I opted for leaving it, and for the time being, to develop

Popinjay time

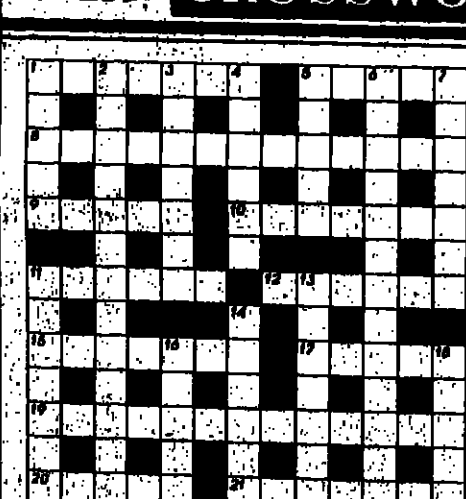
Memo to Sir Keith. He shouldn't worry so much about history, but rather concentrate on giving his functional lessons in geography. The DES statisticians made an extraordinary mistake in a map in their Statistical Bulletin 1/84, by showing Northumberland's pupil teacher ratio as between 1-1.0 and 1.5-2.0 - a commendable achievement for the county. But it was wrong. In fact the county has one of the worst PRT's in England 1-17.6.

How did this extraordinary mistake come about? An understandable computer error? Not at all. The statisticians have admitted that they didn't realize that Northumberland was a separate county, but thought it was part of Tyne and Wear (not an education authority and soon to be obliterated).

Naturally, the story has raised Northern hackles. Just as that early heir to the Northumberland earldom, Harry Hotspur, started a civil war because he was "pestored by a popinjay", so his successors in the county have appreciated over less this modern Whitehall indifference to their geographical location. It's a small incident, but it bodes ill for the day when all our rates are capped and every item of our local expenditure subject to the whim of some London "popinjay" functionary.

Christopher Price

No 139 CROSSWORD by Rufus



Down

- Doctor tea or coffee (5)
- Funny feeling (5,2,6)
- Order new laws for a place in London (7)
- Ventilator in a gallery (6)
- Locks are the key to its existence (5)
- One, is not openly menaced by three (6,7)
- They take no end of towels (7)
- Superior, we hear, away from this country (7)
- Many are fed (7)
- Penhouse lent on a new arrangement (4,2)
- Wakes all away (5)
- Three points go to my opponent (5)

- Across**
- Sealing is never enough with such chairs (7)
 - Conceded report a story (5)
 - Self-important (13)
 - Check result in disgrace (5)
 - Take a job over to break the monotony (7)
 - Holiday when one is not at one's best (3,3)
 - States differ - go do these (6)
 - Treat or coach (7)
 - Her sister is a superior person (5)
 - Terrible condition bad, wings is in? (8,2)
 - Middle in war or peace (5)
 - A long wandering tale (7)

Solution for puzzle no 138

ACROSS: 1. SEALING, 2. CONCED, 3. SELF-IMP, 4. CHECK, 5. TAKE, 6. HOLIDAY, 7. SEALING, 8. CONCED, 9. SELF-IMP, 10. CHECK, 11. TAKE, 12. HOLIDAY, 13. SEALING.

DOWN: 1. DOCTOR, 2. FUNNY, 3. ORDER, 4. VENTILATOR, 5. LOCKS, 6. ONE, 7. THEY, 8. SUPERIOR, 9. MANY, 10. PENHOUSE, 11. WAKES, 12. THREE, 13. SEALING.

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TVEI girls still suffer from narrow job choices

by Hilary Wilce

Girls are missing out on many of the training opportunities now available in schools under the hastily implemented Technical and Vocational Education Initiative.

Local authorities are obliged by the Manpower Services Commission, the body set up to administer TVEI, to set up schemes which try to avoid sex stereotyping. The teachers, outside observers, and in a number of cases, the local authorities themselves, agree that this has not been done on any significant scale.

As a result, they say, there is a massive injection of new girls into schools and colleges - the so-called TVEI girls - who are not only missing out on the advantages of the initiative but are also being forced into traditional occupational skills, and by failing to consider alternative options.

In Birmingham, 135 of the 139 girls on the craft, design and technology courses set up under the initiative were girls.

Ms Barbara Tatton, president of the Birmingham branch of the National Union of Teachers, said that experience in Birmingham had caused the NUT to become "more and more alarmed about many aspects of this new initiative".

The National Women's Commission, an advisory committee to government on women's affairs, which has been looking at TVEI schemes as part of a wider inquiry into women's training, is also worried that the initiative is not fulfilling its equal opportunities brief.

Visits to schemes have convinced members of the inquiry team that so far the initiative has done more to reinforce occupational stereotyping than to reduce it.

Many authorities have been concerned simply to get equal numbers of boys and girls onto their schemes, they say, without looking at which courses they are going onto, and no authority has attempted to counsel girls about possible choices.

They fear that an employment-led initiative such as this will do little to encourage girls into non-traditional areas.

Mrs Saxon Spence, chairman of the inquiry, said: "The real danger is that the MSC is now going ahead with another batch of schemes, without having evaluated what is happening in the first 14."

However, the problem is recognised. Some authorities, such as Sandwell, are considering how their schemes might be adjusted, and the MSC is organising a national conference on the issue next week.



Rhythm-time: Infants and juniors - all severely or profoundly deaf - of Whitebrook School for the Deaf, Fallowfield, Manchester, move to the rhythm of highly-amplified music which they interpret through their body-worn hearing aids.

Survey fuels fury over cuts

by David Lister

Parental anger over swingeing cuts this week in East Sussex's education budget has been further inflamed by a survey of Tory councillors which shows that none has a child at a state primary school and only one has a child at a state secondary school.

The survey of the members of the ruling Conservative group which on Tuesday decided to axe 100 primary and 50 secondary teaching posts in 21.7m of cuts, was carried out by the *Brighton Evening Argus*, which in some cases obtained information from councillors' family and friends. All the councillors were named.

It showed that of the 52 Tories only

five have children at school, and of these four use fee-paying schools. Of those whose children have now grown up 21 used the private sector and 18 used state secondary schools.

The very fact that a link is being drawn between councillors cutting state education and the schools they choose for their own children has infuriated Conservative councillors and delighted the Labour opposition.

Mrs Joan Mont, education chairman, said many councillors felt the survey was an intrusion into their privacy. She thought the survey was irrelevant. "If you're an authority which deals with housing, do you have

to live in a council home before you can make policy?" she said.

She said that most of the education committee were state school governors and her children had gone to state schools and she added: "People who pay for private schooling have a great commitment to education. You can't have a greater commitment than making a financial sacrifice to send your children to school."

Labour group leader Councillor Dave Hill said the Tories were out of touch with education. "A lot of them went to public schools and pay to send their children to school, so they don't have a stake in state education."

Taxman hits at tea-time claims

by Richard Garner

The Inland Revenue has swooped to curb a county's teachers' expenses claimed for meals taken during attendance at out-of-hours school functions. Teachers earning more than £8,500 a year will now have to record on a form how much they have spent on food, even only tea and biscuits. Free meals taken at midday are not liable to tax.

The move, which is at present being tested in Derbyshire, has angered members of the 22,500-strong Association of Head Teachers - which is seeking to raise the

issue at the next meeting of CLEA/st, which negotiates teachers' conditions of service.

Mr David Hart, NAHT general secretary, suggests three courses: ● seeking a change in the law to exempt teachers from such taxation; ● taking the matter up politically; or ● seeking a higher rate of pay for higher-paid teachers to compensate those who are being taxed.

He acknowledges that one danger is that practice often varies from tax-office to tax office - although he adds: "I believe the present unsatisfactory

position outweighs the danger."

A spokeswoman for Derbyshire County Council said that as from April 1 - teachers would be required to fill in forms claiming travelling and meals expenses if they were returning to school for out-of-hours functions. At present, the school itself claims the money from the county council - and their returns are submitted to the Inland Revenue.

The Inland Revenue clampdown was being carried out under the terms of the 1976 Finance Act which aims to curb certain perks, she said.

Status bid for Rasta study

by Nick Wood

One of the last reports from the Schools Council urges exam boards to draw up syllabuses and exams in Rastafarianism, the controversial faith whose dreadlocked followers venerate Haile Selassie, the late Emperor of Ethiopia, as a messiah.

Ms Angela Wood, the author and head of religious studies at North Westminster Community School, reaches this conclusion in her discussion of how religious studies exams at 16-plus could be given a multicultural dimension.

"Given that many Rastafarian youths will take some examinations at 16-plus, the possibility of an examination in their religion and culture may have an uplifting effect upon them and give them greater respectability and acceptance," she said. "Furthermore, the examination may well be taken by non-Rastafarian pupils, and this would increase its standing."

But she admits that difficulties could arise because Rastafarians may not wish to cooperate with exam boards.

Assessment in a multicultural society: Religious studies at 16-plus. By Angela Wood. Available from: Longman Resources Unit, 33-35 Tanner Row, York YO1 1LP.

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The "vague, unfair and misleading" HMI reports which leave first and middle schools open to attack 23

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30.11.84

The gap between fact and fantasy

Why does the Government persist in making itself look foolish? This is a reference not to the exquisite muddle over the OCHQ nor yet to Mark Thatcher's innocent pursuit of wealth creation but to the Walter Mitty quality of ministers' plans for local government spending. Year after year, the chasm between hope and reality yawns wide. Year after year, the Government admits defeat by adjusting baselines or adding a hefty "unallocated margin". A mid year after year, the ritual shrieks of horror from councils and unions give way to cynical shrugs. Why pay too much attention to horror stories that don't come true?

The gap between plans and reality is clearly demonstrated in the latest public spending White Paper (see page 12). A novice looking at the figure for next year might well think education was in for a shock. School meals and milk? Planned spending slashed from £414m this year to £257m next. Adult education? Down from £91m to £73m, a cool 20 per cent. The youth service?

Why, a modest cut of 12.4 per cent, from £105m to £92m. But a glance back to last year's White Paper would allow a novice to breathe again. That, too, envisaged a mammoth cut in school meals spending, from £400m to £266m. It, too, set out a 20 per cent cut in adult education and a rather smaller cut - of 5.4 per cent - in the youth service. But did those cuts materialize? No. In fact, spending on meals has probably risen by £10m or 2.5 per cent; on adult education by £9m or 11 per cent; on the youth service by £5m or 5 per cent. As with the detail, so with the general picture. The White Paper admits that education budgets last year were 4.2 per cent above ministers' target, with one-fifth of the excess spending going on school meals and milk. In the current year, they would be no less than 7.5 per cent (£703m) over were it not for education's share - probably about half - of the extra £900m allocated to councils "for realism". And the overshooting is quietly expected to continue, although at a lower level, once ministers are armed with their rate-capping powers. Next year's "unallocated margin" of £660m is followed by margins of £400m in 1985-86 and £200m in 1986-87.

Only in higher education, where the DES has direct control of budgets, do the plans bear any relation to reality. And even there, buoyant student demand has been forcing ministers to revise their estimates upwards. The way the accounts are presented goes a long way to explain the decline and fall of the present system of local government finance. The present arrangements are indefensible: they combine the worst of all worlds. There is no realistic connexion between finance and policy; projections of future spending are repeatedly falsified; targets are set which fail to constrain the free-spending authorities while at the same time harshly restricting those who now spend less than they should. This is seen at its worst in figures for global spending on education which cannot be said to be ungenerous (a 1 per cent increase in real terms in 1978-79, against a 12 per cent drop in numbers) but which are quite consistent with wide extremes of parsimony and extravagance. Rate-capping is one response to these massive deficiencies. Bad as it is, direct action against "overspenders" may indeed begin to bring some of the worst unfairness of the present scheme, because the Government has promised to accompany the harsh punishment for the few easier targets for the many. But, even if it can be believed that promise, rate-capping remains a desperate and unattractive remedy for a problem which has been magnified by the Government's own unrealistic expectations. And, there are already signs (see Robin Pauley in Tuesday's Financial Times) that it is not going to be easy to devise a "capping" scheme which actually hits 12 to 20 Labour-controlled authorities on the Government's hit list, without introducing more anomalies, injustices and expense.

COMMENT

All open and above board

There will be price to pay for opening up school records, a union spokesman (page 8) has commented: "if teachers aren't sure, they won't put anything down." Which provides, of course, the best possible reason why parents and probably older pupils should have free access to such records. For it is only too clear that, under the convenient cloak of secrecy, professionals in the education service, and in other social services, have recorded with impunity facts that they were not sure about, and had not checked. The useful discipline of having to check your facts before committing them to paper is something which other professionals - including journalists - have to accept, and it is difficult to believe that teachers would find it any more arduous to come to terms with. Why should teachers be immune from the libel laws? Indeed, it is arguable whether publication of wrong facts in the public prints could do more damage to a child's subsequent career than passing them on a confidential basis to other educational institutions or to employers. The Lindop Committee on Data Protection, reporting in 1978, recognized that records kept on children by schools - whether handwritten or on computer - were potentially part of a

national computer-based record system, and recommended access to such information for parents "particularly where it is factual or about the home and family circumstances, if for no other reason than to ensure accuracy." The traditional defence against such openness is that it will sometimes be in the child's best interests to record a suspicion of battering or neglect, or the judgments of doctor, psychologist or social worker, and that it could therefore be counter-productive to do anything to inhibit professional frankness. Even supposing that there were some way of guarding against the recording of ill-considered comments without involving the parents, such condescension cannot do away with the need to check for accuracy. There is already plenty of evidence to suggest that unsubstantiated allegations do find their way, unchallenged, on to pupil files if parents are not consulted or confronted. It can be forcefully argued that a two-tier system is bound to develop if school records are opened up, professional or clinical judgments being kept separately. This has on the whole been justified so far. It might be more constructive, on the other hand, to see the opening up of school records as the first stage along the way. The more experience which is gained of overcoming the practical difficulties in opening up the first tier, the easier it will eventually be to open up the majority of professional reports. Experience, so far suggests that accuracy is not the only advantage to accrue from a more open system. In

Leicestershire they have found that it has been one ingredient helping towards a more collaborative and fruitful relationship with parents, and it is hard to see how the pupil profile movement could flourish if some facts hitherto recorded secretly did not form part of the open file. Well, what should we call them? If "young people" conjures up the well-meaning tones of middle-aged churchmen, "kids" evokes the equally well-meaning but aggressively partisan twang of social workers in denim rompers. The "new adult" was of course a hopeful sign of bandwagoning publishers in the mid-seventies; "children" are nowadays never over 12. The study reviewed on page 27 this week suggests that the socially and biologically accurate "adolescent" should now go too, as being encrusted with misleading myth: that leaves "teenager", also accurate, and these days shorn of its American breeziness. What the study has to say is both predictable and well worth hammering home in "youth studies" quarters. Youth studies (let us release them temporarily from their well-merited imprisonment in derivative quotation marks) have long been dominated by their leading practitioners' fascination with the deviant and rebellious fringe. Punks and skinheads lend themselves



Live and let live

readily to excitingly radical theorizing, whereas the humdrum realities of most adolescents (sorry) lives do not. In this sphere, as in others, television drama underlines the fashionable tendency: plays about delinquent delinquents are now a standard vehicle for the expression of vicarious rebellion by middle-aged, ex-radical playwrights. The great mistake which aging radicals make is to rely on the cut and dried simplicities of their own youth or disillusioned middle-age as a way into the contemporary mind: the truth about underprivileged teenagers (ah, now is that they are both more resigned and more resourceful than they would have been 20 years ago. The

global future is, alas, much more uncertain, which surely helps indecision, and the present is infinitely more fluid. It is now possible, for example, to lead a dignified, purposeful, and relatively ordered life in a stable society of fellow-squatters, in that is the fate towards which cosmic realities propel you: if you opt for a career, it is unwise to count too much on its permanence. Even from this sensationalist, sensational study, however, the message for politicians is clear: the message for "the best thing that can happen to me" was getting a job. And, as a result, that, politicians might look back last week's TES interview with Belfast playwright Graham Reid in Northern Ireland, Reid pointed out unskilled and unqualified teenagers had another path open to them, not quick, very alluring, and with status virtually assured: joining a paramilitary organization. o o o NO COMMENT

"I should be delighted to see money. If we lived in a land where with milk and honey, we should be able to have more money, but I suppose that we should then all have to give up wearing bumbags." The Earl of Swinton, Governor of education, speaking at the Education (Grants and Awards) on February 14.

The Rugby Union is under constant pressure to revise its definition of amateurism, and in a hard-nosed world it must yield to some of this pressure. After all, only the other week one of the current England team lost his job because he was taking too much time off to play rugby. The problems of 1985 refuse to go away. For all that I have admired many aspects of rugby league, and grew up playing it, I think it would be a pity if it were allowed to oust rugby union from the educational scene. For one thing I believe that rugby union has the potential to be a far more exciting and fluent game than league, which was not the case when I was playing. But more importantly, I think the game does still, try to embody a "spirit", for want of a better term, that is absent from all the other team games involving bodily contact. It is certainly this spirit that makes for the marvel of its popularity among many players around the world.

Second opinion Rugby and hooligans - the right approach

Bert Lodge's article, "The Other Rugby" (TES, February 3) suggests that David Oxley, with his up-to-date up-market approach, is the sole reason for the recent growth of rugby league. There are in fact several other reasons, some of which should be of concern for all teachers who wish to see rugby union continuing to flourish. Rugby union has always been a game of hard physical contact, which always had a special attraction for educators, has been somewhat tarnished. It used to be said that rugby was a "hooligans' game": played by gentlemen, rugby league, the hooligans' game, played by hooligans; but incidents at top level during the last fortnight have reminded us that not all the hooligans are playing rugby league. It is inevitable that rugby league should find present day conditions ripe for expansion - or to preserve the biological metaphor, "invasion" - into the rugby union preserve. It is a game that always emphasized the skills of running and handling (which many of us feel are the essence of the game), and with its simplified laws (no line-outs, rucks, or maels) it is a much simpler game to teach. Its cloth cap image perhaps gives it a greater appeal in these anti-elitist times, and of course, its frankly professional image is more attractive to many

in the rarefied atmosphere of the public and grammar schools. It is a complex and difficult game to teach, not one where the coach can throw the ball in and let them get on with it. It requires either a converted or a native audience if the message is to be got across. The public school boys usually came to the game imbued with its traditions, the grammar school boys came, often more reluctantly, because they were given no other choice. In time, however, the game asserted its own magic, and having given it a try, so to speak, they were converted. Indeed, I believe the best schools' rugby was being played in the grammar schools at the time I was teaching in that sector. Now, of course, the special conditions for the culture exist only in the independent schools. The Rugby Union has done its best to fill the gap left by the dissolution of the grammar schools by fostering mini clubs and rugby union in the primary sector. But the Rugby Union has not been able to fill the gap left by the dissolution of the grammar schools by fostering mini clubs and rugby union in the primary sector. But the Rugby Union has not been able to fill the gap left by the dissolution of the grammar schools by fostering mini clubs and rugby union in the primary sector.

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NEWS

NUT may back Liverpool with strike

by David Lister

The National of Teachers' 2,500 members in Liverpool will hold a mass meeting in the city today to decide whether to back the council's planned "illegal" budget by calling a day's strike on March 29. The vote will be by show of hands rather than secret ballot. As reported in the TES two weeks ago, a budget which did not balance the books could result in teachers simply not being paid. A delegation of Liverpool council members was meeting Mr Patrick Jenkin, Environment Secretary, as the TES went to press on Wednesday. Discussions have taken place in the Department of Environment on the possibility of framing legislation to prevent a government commissioner in to run the city if the budget goes through. But government spokesmen stressed this week that this would be an absolute last resort, and ministers and civil servants had not yet framed draft legislation. Liverpool is still far from having full support from other Labour-controlled authorities. One senior local politician said other cities were pursuing lengthy and detailed campaigns to defeat the Government over the rate-capping and abolition of the metropolitan counties and were fed up with Liverpool's "quest for martyrdom". However, the Liverpool leaders can and do point to their remarkable support in the city in the recent local and general elections, and the fact that they pledged themselves to a policy of defending jobs and services and indeed creating additional jobs. In education, the council intends to add to the number of employees and announce a new capital programme for day nurseries.

While Liverpool is receiving "virtual" no support for its stand from other Labour authorities, Mr Ken Livingstone, the leader of the Greater London Council, opened up the prospect of similar battles next year when he said recently he could not envisage Labour authorities sitting down with the unions and discussing the severe staffing cuts necessary to meet the Government's proposed legislation. Other authorities seem to be taking different lines still. Leaders of the Inner London Education Authority refuse even to consider the question of whether they will cooperate in manning new Government quangos, joint boards or rate-capped authorities. They feel that to discuss this would be to detract from their campaign to save the ILEA which they judge to have been extremely successful so far in uniting hitherto disparate forces.

Mr Patrick Jenkin



Patrick Jenkin

Labour offers HE deal

by Biddy Passmore

The Government-inspired debate on higher education is "no more than a smokescreen to disguise their intention to contract the system", Labour education spokesmen said this week. They said it was time university vice-chancellors and polytechnic directors spoke up and told the Government that closing a number of universities or polytechnics or whole departments across the board would be a devastating blow to higher education. Instead, they offered a "new deal" to higher education: security of funding in exchange for agreement by institutions to change and adapt, throwing open their doors to a wider range of students and becoming more closely involved with their local community.

Mr Giles Radice, Labour's chief education spokesman, and Mr Andrew Bennett, the higher education spokesman, were announcing their responses to recent questionnaires on the future of higher education from the University Grants Committee and the National Advisory Body. Labour rejects the Government's assumption that the decline in the number of qualified 18 year olds means the higher education system must contract. In a letter to Mr Christopher Ball, chairman of the NAB board, the two spokesmen said: "Without detracting from its achievements, we must recognize that in the past higher education has largely served the already educationally 'well fed'. In the future, post-school education should be available to all those who wish to take up appropriate courses."

College funding snub for MSC

by Mark Jackson

The Manpower Services Commission's plan to get local authorities to help it take over part of the control of their colleges received an unexpected setback this week when the local authority associations refused to have anything to do with it. Commission officials had invited them to join an ad hoc working group to decide how to implement the Government's White Paper proposals to channel a substantial part of non-advanced further education funds through the MSC instead of the rate support grant. The group was a first step in the plan - decided by Mr David Young, the commission's chairman in a TES interview earlier this month - to set up a national body to oversee the funding of colleges. MSC officials had prepared an announcement on the setting up of the group, which was intended to include representatives of the trade unions, employers, teachers, college principals, education officers, and the valuing bodies as well as the local authorities, for release after yesterday's meeting of the commissioners. But at a meeting on Monday with the Employment and Education Secretaries, the local authorities made it plain that they were not prepared - at least for the present - to commit themselves to any form of cooperation with the Government's plan. Ministers insisted that the Government was determined to go through with the White Paper programme, but made their first concession in the other confrontation over funds for training - the problem of the YTS deficits which many authorities face. The Ministers agreed that local authority officers would be given a chance to prove to their own officials that councils could not avoid being

forced into penalty spending by such deficits - the implication being that the Government is now prepared to consider exempting YTS spending from the penalty rules. Members of Parliament this week questioned Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State for Employment, about his orders to the MSC to cut back Youth Training Scheme Mode B1 places in training workshops and community projects. These orders threaten to force a crisis between the Government and the Youth Training Board. Mr Morrison tried to persuade the MPs that the reduced provision of 70,000 places would be enough by telling them that only 54,300 of this year's places had been filled by the end of December. He did not mention figures already made public by the MSC showing that 71,232 of the places were filled by mid-January.

The Inner London Education Authority is facing a battle with the biggest teachers' union over a plan to offer voluntary redundancy terms to its secondary school teachers as part of a long-term reduction of 2,500 posts. A special council meeting of the 13,500-strong Inner London Teachers' Association of the National Union of Teachers has voted to adopt a "no jobs cuts" strategy - while the ILEA is anxious to reduce the number of secondary school teachers because of falling rolls. The ILEA says it must lose 2,500 secondary teaching posts over the next five years. Over the next 12 months, it wants to cut 525 posts. In addition to axing the 190 extra teachers it employs above its planned staffing level. In special circumstances, the authority says it will accept applications from primary teachers for voluntary severance. The conflict between the two sides comes at an embarrassing time - because both are being dismantled under the government's plan to replace it with a joint board of non-elected borough representatives. The ILEA says the discussions are still confidential, but Mr Richard Ries-

Euro-court threat to UK

by Anne Good

Britain may face legal action by the European Commission because of a move to provide adequate facilities for teaching migrant children the language and culture of their country of origin. The Commission this week warned about the possible court cases against the UK, when it released a report assessing implementation of the EEC directive. Using information given by governments at the end of 1982, the report examined arrangements in each country to integrate, while maintaining their own cultures. The UK system was found to be unsatisfactory on several counts. Only 2.2 per cent of the estimated half million children in the UK whose first language is not English, are given classes in their mother tongue by the schools. Most of this teaching is done through outside organizations without proper government support. According to European law, member states must make special arrangements to help migrant children adjust to their new schools and ensure they are fluent in the language of their new country. A Department of Education spokesman said this week that there were "very genuine differences between the UK and other EEC countries. Britain had a 'decentralized' system which made implementation of the EEC directive difficult. Now, more than ever, teachers' coaches in schools must cultivate a spirit, forgetting those unfortunate expressions like "getting your religion in first". Rugby league, with its bins and authoritarian referee, has always been able to cope with the inherent violence of the game, whereas rugby union must always place faith in "internal" controls. Competition with the competition must be seen as an even more exhilarating game and this means that coaches must emphasize the skills of running and handling - even if this means banning the rugby league coaching emphasis. Who knows, with the right approach we might even reach those real toughs who spend their Saturdays on the terraces of the football fields."

Frank D. Sykes won eight English cups between 1953 and 1963. A head of PE at Northampton School, he now teaches in a

ILEA faces clash with union over jobs deal

by Richard Garner

The Inner London Education Authority is facing a battle with the biggest teachers' union over a plan to offer voluntary redundancy terms to its secondary school teachers as part of a long-term reduction of 2,500 posts. A special council meeting of the 13,500-strong Inner London Teachers' Association of the National Union of Teachers has voted to adopt a "no jobs cuts" strategy - while the ILEA is anxious to reduce the number of secondary school teachers because of falling rolls. The ILEA says it must lose 2,500 secondary teaching posts over the next five years. Over the next 12 months, it wants to cut 525 posts. In addition to axing the 190 extra teachers it employs above its planned staffing level. In special circumstances, the authority says it will accept applications from primary teachers for voluntary severance. The conflict between the two sides comes at an embarrassing time - because both are being dismantled under the government's plan to replace it with a joint board of non-elected borough representatives. The ILEA says the discussions are still confidential, but Mr Richard Ries-

Selection causes uproar in Stroud

The two 11-18 comprehensives and two out of the three secondary moderns would become 11-16 schools feeding into the grammar school's expanded sixth form. Parents and governors are outraged that there have been no consultations on the plan. The only two options seriously considered last autumn were a two-form entry "super" grammar

too small - and a sixth form college system, which commanded the greatest support. The new selective scheme was only approved by one vote on Monday. That narrow margin, and the opposition that will be registered between now and the "ballot" meeting on May 24th, are "giving" the final decision in favour of a sixth form college.

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PLATFORM

Despite the *Training for Jobs* White Paper it is still hard to be certain whether there is a policy to develop the Manpower Services Commission right to the point where it becomes a *de facto* department of education and training unfettered by parliamentary or local authorities.

The White Paper describes a coherent pattern formed by the Certificate of Pre-vocational Education, the Technical Vocational Education Initiative and the many other measures which, when announced, seemed to bear little relationship to what was going on around them. And the decision to develop MSC into a national training agency with so much control over further education also implies the working out of a purpose decided some time ago.

But it remains difficult to decide whether the new pattern is complete or if we have simply reached another stage and may look forward to even further extensions of the Commission's power. How far, for example, will it go in its "leading role of defining standards of performance" to develop a system of certification which can be applied in schools, further education and the Youth Training Scheme?

Even more suspicious is the statement that "looking further ahead we see a continuing need for coordinated provision to help young people progress from education to work as smoothly and effectively as possible". And what can be meant by the reference to the Commission's need for appropriate machinery locally and nationally to carry out its enhanced responsibilities, when the present structure of separate training and employment divisions is only one year old? Will it add an education division? And does it intend to revamp its new Area Manpower Boards?

The tone of the White Paper suggests great faith in the commissioners and their ability to represent the needs of their constituents - employers, trade unions and educationists and the area boards are seen as having membership which similarly reflects the views of a locality better than could a local education authority. This is difficult to accept, for deep within the MSC runs the Department of Employment's traditional view of advisory machinery. The commissioners were probably not even consulted before the White Paper was announced and the area boards have discovered early in their short lives just how advisory their powers are.

Whenever they make a controversial decision they can be sure that it will be countermanded by an official in the regional or national hierarchy. Who ever might be responsible for policy it is not the commissioners or the boards.

But it is worth digressing to look closely at the work of the boards. They have enhanced the *Training for Jobs* Scheme's chances of success. Indeed their interest in youth training has created such an imbalance in their work that the employment division and its schemes for adults, notably the community programme, have been neglected.

The explanation for this is straightforward but revealing. Members realise the importance of producing a continuum between the work begun in



Geoffrey Holland... thinker



Peter Morrison... announcement?



Operation Overlord?

David Peck suggests the likely next steps for the MSC in its bid to become a *de facto* department of education and training

schools to prepare young people for adult life and a programme on which they have some influence. Planning YTS has been systematic, resting upon the needs of young people translated by their careers officers into a profile of the age group. And the boards have set out to meet these needs knowing what places were needed and why.

They have appreciated the close cooperation between MSC staff and the careers officers with their knowledge of young people and local industry. The contributions to discussion which the chief education officer, the college principal and the principal careers officer have made to meetings has raised the level of debate. The partnership between local education authority and MSC has been seen to work.

The community programme offers a stark contrast. It operates haphazardly without a proper understanding of the needs of its clients. It accepts the place which local sponsors provide, little account is taken of the unemployed person and how he would wish his career to develop. Careers advice is not part of the programme and no attempt has been made to involve careers officers; adult education workers or colleges.

So the relative success of YTS and the relative failure of community pro-

gramme reflects an important element of policy. Geoffrey Holland, the MSC's director, constantly stresses the need for consensus and partnership; the same theme runs through the White Paper and the agenda for action on adult training. The practical involvement of L.E.A.s in the implementation of one scheme and the effect of their exclusion from the other illustrates how important this is. But the policy element also requires cooperation, and entirely absent from the White Paper, is careers advice and employment planning. And no mention is made of the underemployment now being experienced by so many young people leaving further and higher education.

Too much can be made of the effect of careful careers advice on preparing people to make the best use of their capacities, inclinations and opportunities, but most educationists would argue that sensible manpower planning and determination of training needs rest upon the soundness of a great many individual decisions taken in the knowledge of the education training and job openings available. A continuous process helping the individual adapt and increase his potential is essential to success.

Others argue that careers advice and personal counselling get in the way; all

that is needed is "information". Geoffrey Holland seems to hold this view. Writing last May he criticized teachers and careers officers for their slowness to adjust, dismissing the commitment of the latter to guidance and counselling. "COIC" (the Careers and Occupational Information Centre) which is "about choices, about helping people open up more choices for themselves by helping themselves get from one place to another" just what teachers and careers officers thought counselling and guidance would achieve.

Significantly the "information" theme occurs again in the MSC's agenda for action on adult training; again stressing the need to work with, and through, others in most fields the Commission claims for itself "an important, perhaps the lead, role in making relevant information on employment and training available to those who need it".

This brings us back to the question of policy and how it is determined. Since David Young became chairman he has done most of the talking. Geoffrey Holland has been free to think. If there is a policy to develop MSC even further it is Holland who will have worked out the next steps. How shall we know? Imperfectly I am sure, but three imminent develop-

ments will provide an indication:

1 Watch the progress of the Careers and Occupational Information Centre - the most rapidly expanding part of the MSC. Beginning by supplying careers literature to schools and careers offices, it now produces a range of videos, information packs and computer programmes, many of or heavily subsidized. Its profile and influence grow. No TVEI scheme accredited centre, school or college can avoid its salesmen or its products.

2 Wait for the introduction in schools of "Occupational Training Families". This imperfectly understood system aims to divide young people into groups according to their skills they need to acquire. New classification it nevertheless promises to be one. Once in schools it will strengthen even further the Commission's ability to dictate standards and methods for assessment. But it stresses the enormous concession teachers will be making by agreeing to a much more rigorous examination of their capacities.

3 Expect an announcement about a careers service. An important element of education and YTS lacking from the community programme and provision for adults, it has been sorely missed from the MSC armoury. The Commission will soon bid to take it over, or, if that seems likely to come too great an upheaval, to push it back into the schools so that something more easily controllable can be developed to fill the obvious gap in provision for adults.

So MSC's policy will not be as difficult to discern. What is hard to understand is how far ministers can go along with it. Can they allow a large public enterprise like COIC, already ripe for privatization, overshadowing CRAC and the private publishers, to continue its headlong expansion? And will they allow the main user of careers information, the careers service - not effective and working successfully within its L.E.A. framework - to be absorbed? We might soon know.

Last year Peter Morrison, the minister responsible, addressed education officers, making it clear that the future of the service depended upon its contribution to YTS. Since then the service has succeeded in placing over 90 per cent of trainees. It has met the Government's guarantee of an offer to each young person by Christmas. It has contributed fully and unreservedly to the success of the scheme. Mr Morrison knows this and when he meets chief education officers again on February 29 he will do so with the knowledge of their success. He might choose next week to announce the long awaited review of the overlap between the careers service and the MSC.

On this decision rests more than the availability of independent date-torsted careers advice. It will show whether a partnership between L.E.A.s and the MSC is still possible or whether the present Balkanization, which is wasteful of effort and money, will continue, backed by an unbroken policy under which the MSC will continue its expansion until it encompasses its dependants all job-seekers, pupils, students, colleges and schools.

David Peck is county careers officer for Shropshire, but his views are personal and do not necessarily reflect those of his employers.

NEWS

Union opens way to professional assessment

by Richard Garner

Leaders of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers have pledged backing for local authority moves to introduce new machinery for teacher assessment.

In a report prepared for discussion at the union's annual conference this year, the NAS/UTW says teachers should accept new criteria and methods for assessment. But it stresses the enormous concession teachers will be making by agreeing to a much more rigorous examination of their capacities.

It says that assessment panels should examine the performance of teachers on the new entry grade for the profession - proposed as part of the salary restructuring deal currently being negotiated.

Assessment should be carried out by teacher tutors who would be people of experience and respect "proven worth" in the classroom.

Mr Fred Smithies, NAS/UTW general secretary, said: "The era of

teachers being assessed by lay people, amateurs or refugees from the classroom must come to an end."

The document says that teachers must have leave to appeal against assessments with which they are unhappy.

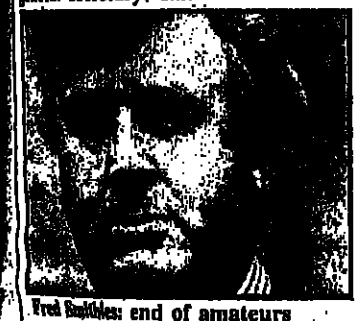
It also recommends that its negotiators should press for a new contract for teachers, based on an adaptation of contracts already used in further education.

Under these, a maximum attendance time is laid down together with a maximum class contact time. Any activities performed, such as invigilating examinations, supervising extra-curricular activities, or attending parents' evenings, could either be set against class contact time, attract time off in lieu, or - says the NAS/UTW - attract additional pay.

Meanwhile, employers' leaders meet today to discuss how to respond to this year's claim by teachers for a "substantial" pay rise and to consider their strategy over the pay restructuring exercise.

Negotiations resumed in earnest on Wednesday with the teachers having already signalled that they will refuse a 3 per cent pay offer - in line with the Government's pay targets - if it is tabled.

This week local authority manual workers - whose pay deal has often been seen as a pace-setter in the local authority field - were offered 4.5 per cent but warned that the rise would lead to cuts in jobs and services. They are considering it.



Fred Smithies, NAS/UTW general secretary

L.e.a.s to pay pension rise

Teachers have been spared the prospect of forking out extra cash to meet the cost of the profession's pensions scheme.

In an announcement in the House of Commons on Wednesday afternoon, Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, said he did not propose changing regulations governing pension payments made by teachers - a claim the Government's report saying they should be increased.

His announcement means that the employers - the local education authorities - will meet the cost of increasing the overall contribution of 1.05 per cent outlined in the report. Teachers' pension contributions remain pegged at 6 per cent.

However, Sir Keith took the opportunity to remind the House that it was the Government's intention that all public sector workers should make "realistic" contributions towards their pension benefits.

PRIMARY

Second thoughts likely as rural axe plan prompts huge outcry

by Hilary Wilce

The growing outcry over the fate of rural schools seemed certain this time as Tory-led Devon to come to a compromise over its plans to axe 100 primary schools.

Under plans agreed by the education committee last week, the 100 schools were to be spread more thinly across the county than they are now. The plan would mean that 39 two-teacher schools would lose half a teacher, and 10 would operate from next September with a head and a part-time teacher.

It would cost about £140,000 to restore pupil-teacher ratios in the smallest schools for next year, he estimated, although this cost would be pushed up further by grant penalties. The cost of restoring ratios to their former level throughout the school system would be about £300,000.

Liberals wanted to see more money made available to education from the £15m the council had left in its balances, he said, "if we had a blizzard in the south-west then one or two million could be available for education."

Mr David Morrison, Liberal leader on the council, said there had been "unprecedented demonstrations" against the cuts and he thought there would almost certainly be some back-tracking.

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Mr Arnold Sayers, said in the local press this week that no extra money would be available for education.

Peers dash hopes of extra cash

by Biddy Passmore

The faint hope that Government ministers might be forced to provide extra money for the new education support grants all but died last week when the proposal was defeated in the House of Lords.

Lady David, Labour education spokesman in the Lords, moved an amendment to the Education (Grants and Awards) Bill proposing that the money to be paid direct to education authorities in the form of support grants should be additional to the Rate Support Grant, not deducted from it.

As the Bill stood, she said, "the totality of Peters will be robbed by a few favoured Poles." The objection was not to a new specific grant as such, but rather to the redeployment of money at the margins at the whim of Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary.

But the amendment, which was also supported by Lord Ridley, Conservative president of the Association of County Councils, and Lord Beaumont of Whitley, the Liberal spokesman, was defeated by 99 votes to 137.



Lady David: direct payment

The Bill passed unamended through its committee stage and will complete its final stages in the Lords at the beginning of March.

The new law is planned to take effect in the financial year 1985-86. It will enable the Education Secretary to set aside 0.5 per cent of planned local authority spending on education (about £46m in England the current year) for priority areas, such as mathematics and computers for handicapped children. He will be able to support up to 70 per cent of that spending (about £33m) through the new grants.

Newcastle seeks to redeploy

The threat of compulsory redundancies for teachers in Newcastle eased this week as councillors looked to redeployment as an alternative.

The council's policy and resources committee decided it could avoid compulsory redundancies providing teachers would show flexibility by accepting redeployment.

Teachers had been alarmed by a controversial formula approved by the education committee which put forward a system of assessing teachers to see who should be made redundant.

But Mr Brian O'Reilly, Newcastle chief education officer, said this week: "The situation facing the education department is much more hopeful now than we could have anticipated. Firm offers of premature retirement have been made to 170 of the 200 who applied."

He added that the controversial document on procedures for possible redundancies was up for consultation with the unions. No discussions between Mr O'Reilly and teacher representatives have yet taken place as last week's TES report may have suggested. It is now hoped to get a wording which is mutually acceptable.

But he stressed that he did not envisage any teacher compulsory redundancies.

Definition enhanced on grade-related criteria for 16-plus Guidelines on English announced

The Government is to issue a consultative document in the autumn on the objectives of the English curriculum which will help to define the new grade-related criteria for 16-plus exams, MPs were told on Tuesday, writes Biddy Passmore.

The news was given by Mr Walter Ulrich, DES deputy secretary for schools, at the first scrutiny session of the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts.

Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, had conceded that it would be harder to define the criteria for English than for maths, which was sequential.

He said piloting and then implementing the introduction of the new-style 16-plus exams would be the element of his plan to raise standards that would take longest. It would be four or five years before the exams were introduced.

Sir Keith also set out the timetable for implementing the other proposals

in his Sheffield speech, which he said should start to reap full benefits in 8 to 10 years. It would be two or three years before the plan to make the initial selection and training of teachers more rigorous was fully effective; one to two years to agree a definition of the curriculum with his partners in the education service; and two to three years to make in-service training more effective.

The changes would affect primary schools, he told Sir William Van Straubenzee, Conservative chairman of the committee. There would be a greater formulation of the skills, knowledge and competence expected of children when they moved to secondary school.

But he ruled out a new public exam at that stage, or at any stage before 16-plus. There would be tests, he said, but their kind and the ages at which children sat them would be up to individual education authorities and schools. Sir Keith spelt out an un-

promising message to teachers on pay, blaming excessive rises for past low spending on books, equipment and maintenance and making it clear that future improvements depended on moderating their claims.

Teachers' pay was by far the largest component of education spending, he said. If it exceeded the provision made for it in the plans, the extra money had to come from somewhere - and it tended to come, "alas, year after year, from the maintenance fund and funds put aside for books and equipment".

He rejected the suggestion from Mr Harry Greenway, a Conservative member, that provision for books and equipment and maintenance should be kept separate from that for teachers' pay.

He repeated his promise to ask his "colleagues" for more money to implement his plan to raise standards if he was convinced that there was no more scope for redeploying resources. But he suggested that was unlikely.

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Assisted Places could 'kill off' independents

Mr Clement Freud, Liberal education spokesman, has warned the Government that its controversial Assisted Places Scheme could actually "kill off" many of the independent schools it is trying to help.

He described as "amazing" new figures the Government has given him in a parliamentary answer, which show that by 1988 more than half the 223 schools taking part will have between 25 per cent and 40 per cent of their pupils paid for under the scheme.

Mr Bob Dunn, the minister for schools, had told him that by 1988, when the scheme was fully operational, an estimated 38 fee-paying schools will have more than 20 per cent of their pupils paid for under the scheme, 50

schools more than 30 per cent and a further 44 more than 40 per cent.

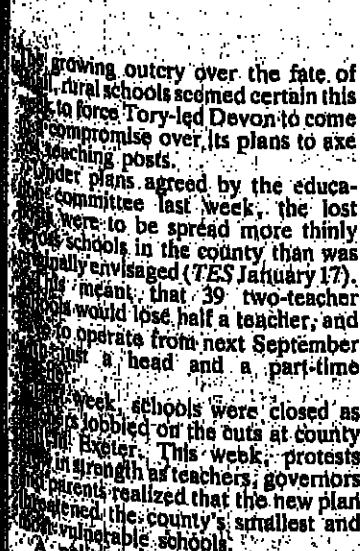
Mr Freud has now tabled a further question to find out how many schools are "about" to having 30 per cent of their pupils paid for under the scheme after originally being told that no school had 30 per cent APS pupils.

The new figures have two major implications, he said. They showed that the Government had gone back on its word not to try to re-establish or replace the old direct grant system of schools.

"It also means that if Labour carries out its threat to abolish the Assisted Places Scheme it will return to office a school which will be dependent on such high percentages of APS children."

The Government introduced the scheme in 1981 as a method of helping bright pupils from poor backgrounds to benefit from the academic excellence of many of the country's top fee-paying schools.

The fees are met by the Government on a means-tested basis. In its first full year the scheme cost £8.7m. There are now 13,000 children taking part at a cost of £16.5m, and by next year a total of 18,000 will be taking part at a cost of £22.5m.



Clement Freud... alarmed at figures

40 per cent APS pupils by 1988. Mr Dunn said that the scheme was being introduced in 1981 as a method of helping bright pupils from poor backgrounds to benefit from the academic excellence of many of the country's top fee-paying schools.

by Richard Garner

Last year, the union produced a policy document on the subject - entitled "A Fair Way Forward" - and now says it is having some success in negotiating new procedures individually with local education authorities. The NUT has several thousand headteacher members.

The conference follows the publication of the findings of the POST project, which was set up in 1980 to look at the selection of secondary

Only three of the 59 authorities visited and a further 46 surveyed by questionnaire ever used other heads as assessors in the selection process.

It adds that the lack of adequate appointments procedures is one reason why headships of major secondary schools are attracting "comparatively small fields of candidates".

Bob Dunn

Mr. Tony Harvey, from Knowl Merseyalde, added: "I think profiles would be a great advantage for the children in my area - but teachers have a hell of a job with what they already have to do."

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inspired if you like, but within them and being protected by the system, are a percentage who ought not to be there because of the ethics of the profession and another percentage who ought not be there because they have failed.

"I am getting assailed for making both these statements, but I am not going to budge an inch."

If anything, he is even more uncompromising about the unions. Generally sneaking, he believes they are on the

For there cannot be many leaders of local government who once had temporarily to jail a community leader for beating the local tax inspector. That's what happened to Tigwe of Vwuip cannibal king of Northern Nigeria when he rather queered the pitch for a visiting United Nations delegation under Dr Muffett's protection.

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ILEA will play its access card

Mike Durham and Anna Gale find general approval for the authority's confirmation that it plans to carry out a policy of opening files on its secondary pupils to parents.

News that the Inner London Education Authority is to press on with plans to open the files on its 142,000 secondary pupils to parents, has been greeted with qualified approval by educationists.

ILEA's schools sub-committee last week voted to go ahead - although the plan may not go into effect until 1985. Consultations are to take place with teachers, parents, professional bodies and the teaching unions.

Most educationists feel the idea is a step in the right direction. But some believe that the ILEA plan does not go far enough or that it could lead to problems.

The Advisory Centre for Education, which monitors complaints from parents about school secrecy, said: "The fact that a pupil's record card may be open for inspection does not necessarily mean parents will be able to see all the documents held by a school about their child."

Some critics, on the other hand, feel that open records could lead to teachers being more circumspect in what they write, ultimately damaging the pupil's education. "There will be a price to pay," claimed one union spokesman.

The campaign for open school records has gathered force with the emergence of much-publicized allegations of false and misleading records, which parents often know nothing about and are unable to correct.

In one current case, a couple are taking out an injunction against ILEA, claiming it is to destroy a school report which they say falsely accuses their son of theft. The allegation was never investigated or proved, the parents claim - yet it remained on the boy's confidential file, providing damning information for any future employer.

In another case cited by ACE, a teacher's value judgment of a child at eight as "emotionally disturbed" ... prone to sudden fits of screaming tantrums ... a real jockey and Hyde personality" was - unknown to her parents - allowed to remain on the file until she was at least 15.

A mother only discovered in conversation with her daughter's head-teacher that a school record was wrong. The head thought the parents were divorced - whereas the husband had simply spent some time working abroad. The woman is still fighting to discover if the record contains other mistakes.

ILEA's plan is to open records in all its 163 secondary schools to both parents and pupils, partly to avoid such

mistakes, and partly as an educational tool. Ultimately, the authority wants to introduce standardized record-keeping, pupil-profiling and a London "record of achievement" plan.

An ILEA spokesman said: "In principle, the idea is that everything a school records about a child should be available for inspection. We hope there will be regular meetings between parents, teachers and pupils to discuss achievement."

But the spokesman acknowledged that there might be "practical difficulties", especially over documents coming from third parties such as welfare agencies, educational psychologists and the medical profession.

These professional agencies are likely to resist pressure for their reports to be made available to parents. They feel that if their professional confidence is put at risk, they will be forced to gloss over sensitive points.

The problem is that if parents were to see a detailed report suggesting, perhaps, that a child might be a thief or the mother engaged in prostitution -

authority says the experiment is working well.

Mr Neil Paterson, assistant director (schools), said open records were a way of "improving communications between home and the school - promoting confidence and trust. The records are being seen in a new light: not as something secret, the school's private property, but as material that supports the school in its educational role. These are factors that are very difficult to measure, but I doubt if there is anyone who wants to reverse the policy."

In Leicestershire not all documents can be seen by parents. Heads still keep back "sensitive" material supplied by outside agencies on a confidential basis. This has led to suggestions of a "two-tier" records system.

Whether or not ILEA has a policy on open or closed record systems, it is still open to individual schools in any area to open their school files to parents. The ACE spokesman said: "We're very keen to present it as an issue that not only parents, but teachers and school governors, can act on. Any school can go it alone on the

basis of a decision by its governors, with the approval of headteacher and staff."

One middle school which opened up its records in 1977 was Redbrook School, Rochdale, after a joint decision by governors, headmaster and staff.

The head, Mr James Bleakley, said: "The advantages are overwhelming. Everybody is working for the benefit of the children. There's no suspicion - instead there's warmth and a welcoming atmosphere."

At Redbrook, with 600 pupils in the 10 to 13 age group, progress and tutorial reports are made available to parents, but not pupils. This is coupled with regular meetings between staff and parents, and the records are updated every half term.

"Far from less being written, what we find is that reports are fuller," said Mr Bleakley. "We don't put anything on the cards that parents haven't already been told about."

But in Redbrook - as in Leicestershire schools - confidential reports from outside professional agencies are often filed separately. Mr Bleakley



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At St Anne's, a first school in Stanwell, Surrey, records were opened in 1976 as "learning devices" at the instigation of the then headteacher, Mrs Elsa Davies. "It was absolutely invaluable in promoting trust and mutual respect between all concerned - teachers, parents and pupils," she said. But, again, confidential records were kept in a separate folder.

The opening up of school records has drawn a cautious welcome from the National Association of Head Teachers. "At the end of the day I think we would come down in favour of the Leicestershire solution," said the association's secretary, Mr David Hart. "There's a lot to be said for carefully examining your information, and drawing a distinction between what should and should not be confidential."

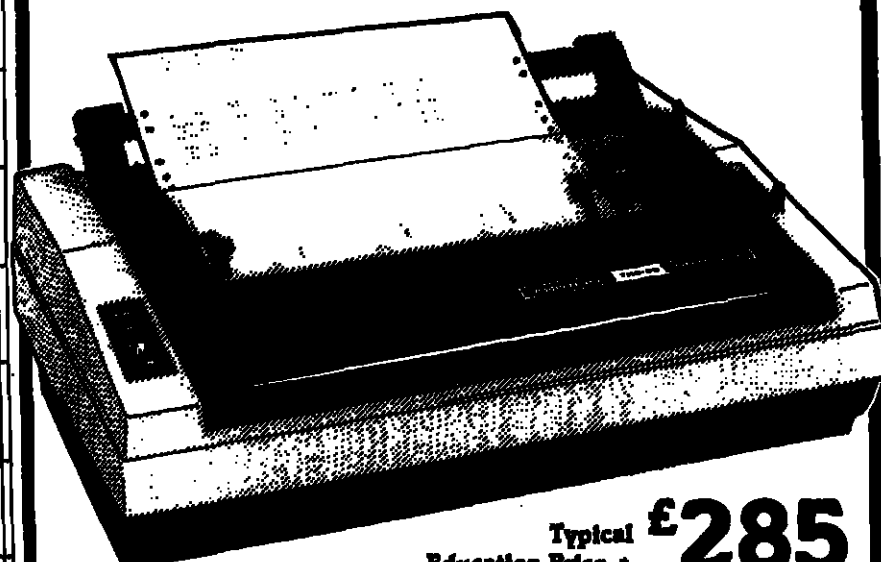
"NAHT policy at the moment is that confidential school records should remain so and should only be released to parents or pupils on the permission of the headteacher."

The National Union of Teachers' Inner London Teachers' Association is in favour of the ILEA scheme. As far as NUT members as a whole are concerned, a spokesman said that the executive was looking at the question and a policy document was expected shortly.

But the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers believes there will be a price to pay. Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary, said: "We quite welcomed it ... no trouble at all. But the price to pay will be that the information teachers record will have to be answerable in a court of law. So school records will have to change quite a lot. Less information will be put down. And we'd say, 'don't be bothered'. If teachers allow themselves to rack their brains for hours working out how to put a delicate point down in writing, then let them. But, if teachers aren't sure, then they won't put anything down."

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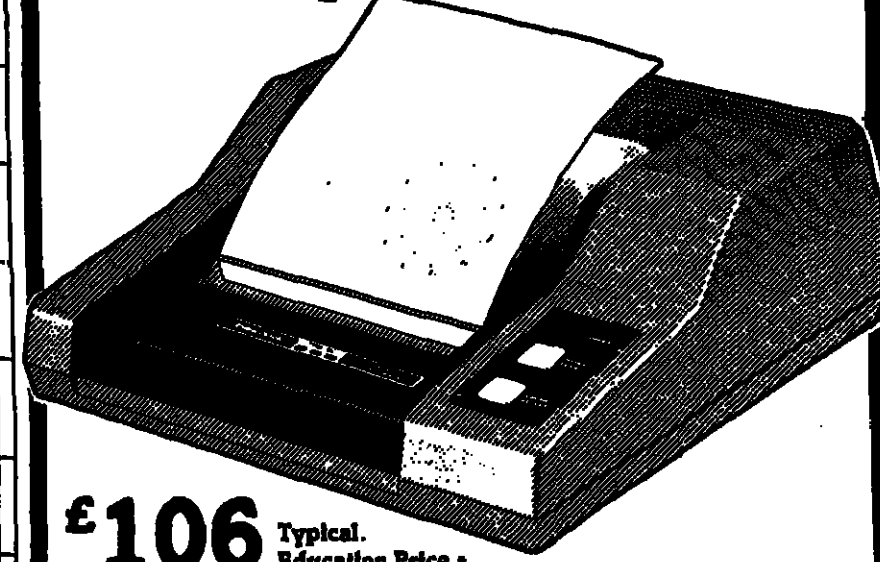
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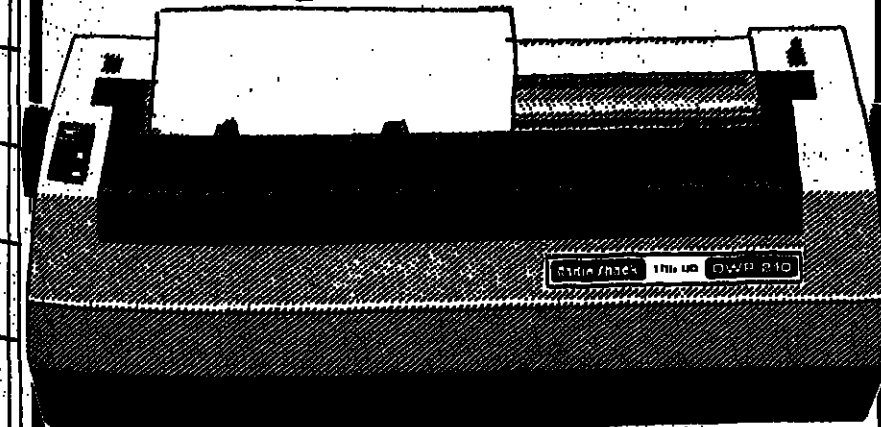


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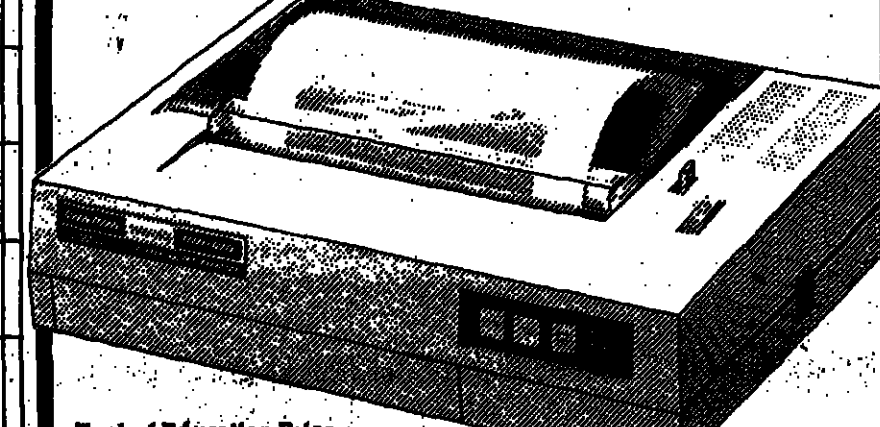


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Radical hold on the state sector

by Richard Garner

Few true conservatives are left in positions of influence in the maintained sector of education, says a teachers' union leader in a book published this week.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, and a former comprehensive school head, says that progressives and traditionalists alike now accept pupil involvement in policy-making as "quite proper and acceptable, even to the point of their being party to demonstrations and protests."

In support of his claim, he cites an incident in 1979 when children demonstrated outside the offices of the Department of Education and Science against their school's proposed amalgamation with another while the Under Secretary of State for Education, Dr Rhodes Boyson, sat in his office a few floors above them.

"Children marched in the streets below, chanting: 'Two, four, six, eight, we will not amalgamate!'" he said. "From whence did these young activists come, and by what genius of teacher and parent were they led?"

"What kind of permissiveness brought them to this place, to be marching with banners when they might more profitably have been at their books? They were in fact from High Park Primary School, a school of 100 pupils, which had been set up

as a radical experiment in the early 1970s."

Mr Dawson goes on to say that "it would be idle to pretend that the whole of the teaching profession readily accepts the new situation" adding: "The very notion of what has from time to time been rather extravagantly referred to as pupil power is an anathema to some, and they will never be reconciled to it."

However, he concludes by saying that the future of education "rests less upon the grand sweep of political policy than some imagine" adding: "The good teacher will always be secure, whatever political or administrative battles rage around the school system and it is upon the good teacher that the future of education depends."

He also attacks the growing influence of politicians on the running of schools: "Anyone who thinks local councillors are going to be happy to stop at prohibiting one particular action is blind to the obvious. If the candidate is abolished at a stroke, so to speak, what further challenges might be mounted against the entrenched reactionary power of the teaching profession?"

Teachers and Teaching by Peter Dawson is published by Basil Blackwell, price £4.95 (paperback).

Design awards

The joint winners of this year's Education Equipment Design Awards, secondary group, were the Griffin and George Programmable Scientific Instrument, described as "a new concept in science laboratory instrumentation", and the Plawco Construction System by Leisurewire Ltd. The Hark microdot kit for newcomers to the microscope was commended.

In the primary award only five entries were received - according to the award's sponsors a reflection of the depressed nature of the educational equipment industry because of spending cuts. There was no winner but a language overlay kit "The Magic Way into Language" by Martin Ballard and Company was commended.

Music Extra

The ban of music accompanying Margaret Hargreave's article "A Game and a Song" in last week's Music Extra were printed incorrectly. They should have read as follows:



Staircase

Run Up

Hilary Wilce takes part in a Bristol University assertiveness training course that helps women public service workers to throw away the psychological calipers that have traditionally encumbered the "second" sex.

Women of independent miens

"Assertiveness training? You're the last person in the world who needs that!"

"Assertiveness training? Does that mean you'll come back throwing your weight around, bosing us all about?"

Twenty women, mostly with jobs in local government, gathered at Bristol University recently for a two-day course in "assertiveness training for women in the public service," and immediately swapped stories of the jibes they had had to take from colleagues for coming on the course.

They were the latest batch of recruits in a programme of short courses that the School for Advanced Urban Studies has been running with great success over the past 18 months to help women in local and central government, and in the health services, to develop their confidence and potential.

Teachers, lecturers, education officers and youth workers would all be eligible for places — and could make good use of them, judging by the poor showing of women in high educational places — but have so far been plucked at the post by the enthusiasm of their colleagues in housing, social services, nursing, and planning.

However, the effect of the training programme is now spreading wider ripples. A number of training officers have road-tested the training for possible adaptation in their own local authorities. If the trend continues, public sector women from Cleveland to Cornwall could find themselves being processed through this latest self-improvement import from across the Atlantic.

The two-day course has a set structure. After a general introduction, participants introduce themselves, their jobs and what they hope to get out of the course — a surprising exercise in all kinds of ways. Rather unprepossessing women turn out to have the highest-powered jobs, while vivacious and articulate women confess to deep crises of confidence and communication.

A common misconception is that assertiveness training is designed to make timid women trusting and aggressive. In fact a number of participants confessed that their main aim was to shed the shield of an aggressive exterior. "What really frightens me"

said one, "is what happens if I drop all that — and there's nothing behind it!"

These concepts were further explored when the group split up to examine the concepts "aggressive", "non-aggressive" and "assertive".

It was decided that aggressive behaviour — abusive, hostile, violent, antagonistic, (and often male) — had much in common with non-assertive behaviour — deferential, evasive, passive, martyred (and often female). Both were defensive, and often manipulative.

Assertive behaviour, on the other hand, was considered reasonable, dignified, independent, confident and understanding — an ideal that, in a rational world, everyone would strive for.

Participants then worked out personal "contracts" in which they identified specific things they wanted from the course, any blocking mechanism they might use to keep new ideas out, and what they thought they could contribute to the course.

Many of these contracts bore strong similarities. People wanted to express themselves more forcefully, to know how to delegate, and to rid themselves of a fear of authority.

They thought they might shut uncomfortable truths out by laughing away difficult moments, or growing bored and switching off. And they planned to bring to the course experience, sensitivity, humour and honesty.

After a much-needed lunch — self-



analysis is surprisingly hard work — it was time for a lesson in the body language of eye contact, stance, voice tone and inflection.

Participants had to tell each other to get out of the way. Unaided by such forbidden niceties as "please" or "would you mind" this proved a stark exercise, heavily loaded with embarrassed laughter.

Further and more telling lessons on these lines came from video sessions where everyone had to watch themselves both interviewing and being interviewed.

Each session was closely analysed, with the victim squirming under a barrage of friendly, but rigorous comment. A range of subjects came up for discussion, from how to cope with a tense and "swallowed" voice, to the art of dangling so-called "free" information in order to ease a conversation along.

On the second day — to which this reporter was not admitted — these general lessons were to be translated into role play games in which participants acted out situations that gave them particular difficulty.

Some of these had already been raised. A training officer from an outer London borough said she had difficulty handling the kind of remarks on her personal appearance that male colleagues lobbed into meetings. She felt strongly that they undermined her professional credibility.

A housing advice manager from

Wales said that criticism, particularly when it came from people she did not respect, could swiftly reduce her to tears. And a community services officer felt it was simply time she stood up for herself, and her points of view.

One of the three trained counsellors running the course, Ms Debbie Clarke, of the National Institute for Careers Education and Counselling, disclosed her own particular problem.

"I think I've got quite a long way in becoming more assertive, but I've had to do a lot of negotiating with the Manpower Services Commission lately, and that's all big committees, with lots of people sitting round tables in great, impressive rooms. The first time I went to one of these I hardly opened my mouth, but when you learn the rules of the game, and how to play it, it's all much less intimidating."

In many ways assertiveness training is simply a revamp of the old how-to-win-friends-and-influence-people formula, with added feminism.

It is about simple devices — think about what you want to say; look people in the eye as you say it — to achieve obvious goals of effective self-presentation.

But simple things are not necessarily self-evident, and while few participants felt the course was causing scales to fall from their eyes, almost all welcomed the chance to think hard about their personal strengths and weaknesses.

Some were obviously sceptical about parts of the course. At one stage, for example, everyone was given a bill of Rights, and told to intone key clauses at each other, while fellow group members nodded in encouragement.

"I have the right to express my own opinions and values," said one, solemnly. "Yes, yes!" the others replied. "I have the right to decline responsibility for other people's problems." "Indeed, you do!"

But, if doubts were expressed about the direct value of such exercises, most participants felt they would have learned a number of lessons, some formally through the course, and others from sharing experience with women in similar positions, and facing the same kind of problems.

There was disagreement about whether assertiveness training was a suitable for men as for women. They felt that everyone, no matter what their sex, could benefit from learning basic lessons about communication and self-expression.

Others felt that, while men might benefit, their presence would change the tenor of the course, and that a women-only nature was an essential ingredient.

Women, it was felt, shared certain particular problems. Society prescribes roles for women to know their place, and gives them approval for behaviour which is accommodating and deferential, so it can be particularly difficult for women to assert their needs and opinions, and to act independently of their roles as wives and mothers, daughters and girlfriends.

And if those particular course members were anything to judge by, women are also desperately conscientious and fearful of making mistakes, they find it difficult to delegate, and have an unsettling tendency to burst into tears when criticized.

Ms Jacky Underwood, who runs the course programme, told participants that it was enormously difficult to decide to change behaviour patterns, and to do so could leave them open and vulnerable. "There are huge forces working against you. You have to recognize that. And if you decide not to change your behaviour, not to be more assertive than that is your right, too."



One of the ways in which Bobby Robson, the England manager, hopes to revitalize the national game is by setting up a school for 30 to 40 of the country's most skilful under-14 footballers.

In addition, the Football Association and the Football League are proposing to establish an unspecified number of regional centres of excellence for boys of 11 and over. At these centres the boys could receive week-in-week-out round-the-year attention from the best coaches in the country.

Jolly good idea you may say? You might not have thought so if you had seen a fly on the wall at the English Schools Football Association's special general meeting at Dudley last Saturday.

The meeting was called ostensibly to test the temperature of the membership about proposals to affiliate with the Football Association — a move which is being demanded by FIFA. The thermometer barely stood up to the task.

ESFA militants are opposed to any sort of marriage with the FA or anyone else, and most of those attending were adamant. They believe that serious deterioration in relations between the FA and the ESFA during the last few years have arisen out of what they see

as the FA's intention to take over schools international football.

Questions involving affiliation, a national football school, and centres of excellence are seen as integral parts in a sinister plot to emasculate the ESFA.

"Serious situation" and "big battle ahead", were some of the more reportable reactions to an eloquent presentation by Jim Robinson, senior ESFA councillor and schools representative at Lancaster Gate, who argued that affiliation was inevitable.

The meeting remained unmoved as Mr Robinson spelled out the consequences of failure to comply with the

Schools football goes into the attack



manner in which, without consultation, the FA had set up the national football school at Lilleshall, in Shropshire, and the centres of excellence.

The latter are clearly regarded as league club hatcheries — poorly camouflaged attempts to enable the clubs to get their hands on talented children at earlier and earlier ages.

The former was dismissed as a tragically expensive and misconceived idea which would in all probability fail.

Members were confident that much more effective ways of using the £15m set aside for producing highly skilful players could have been found by joint

the England under-15 team selection training and match programmes — subject of course to ESFA affiliation.

But representatives of the association in the north-western hinterlands of the schoolboy game were not to be easily placated. They complained of the cavalier fashion in which the FA had treated what everyone had supposed to be an ESFA/FA partnership arrangement for running the under-16 national team.

This group, led by representatives of the Manchester and Kirkby associations, suggested that the FA's actions and attitudes had done little to promote

occurs. League club managers seem unhappy about the manner in which boys may be taken out of their hands to attend the Lilleshall football school for two years and some have said they will not allow their associated schoolboys to attend. The ESFA clearly considers the Lilleshall school to be a bad idea on educational grounds and likely to prove a very expensive mistake from the football viewpoint.

Both the ESFA members and the club managers are less than wholly enthusiastic about the staffing, location and licensing of centres of excellence. All this suggests that perhaps the ESFA should seek direct discussions about centres of excellence with all the clubs anxious to take part in the excellence scheme.

Why, for example, shouldn't each district schools' football association become a centre of excellence and utilize such expertise as may be available for the development of individual skill, technique and fitness? Such centres would in no way conflict with the ESFA rule that team affairs must be under the control of practising school teachers.

Allen Wade is the former director of coaching at the Football Association.

Allen Wade on why members of the English Schools Football Association have been putting the boot into Bobby Robson's plans to set up elite coaching centres for gifted schoolboys

FIFA demand. Loss of all international fixtures, loss of revenue from ESFA's massively-supported Wembley matches, unavailability of club grounds for ESFA games at district, county or national levels, and the loss of thousands of pounds reinvested annually by the ESFA into school sport.

Members and council were united in their opposition to the high-handed

consultation with the ESFA. Reports of meetings held between the FA and ESFA had indicated the FA's determination to make Lilleshall a fountainhead for England under-15 national teams despite the likelihood that the best schoolboys were unlikely to attend.

The FA was reported to have conceded complete autonomy to ESFA together with absolute authority over

ote a feeling of trust between the two bodies.

The meeting was prepared to support any proposals which were unequivocally aimed at enhancing the moral, social and physical welfare of young footballers. But the members were not interested in the exploitation of children, however talented, for the benefit of football.

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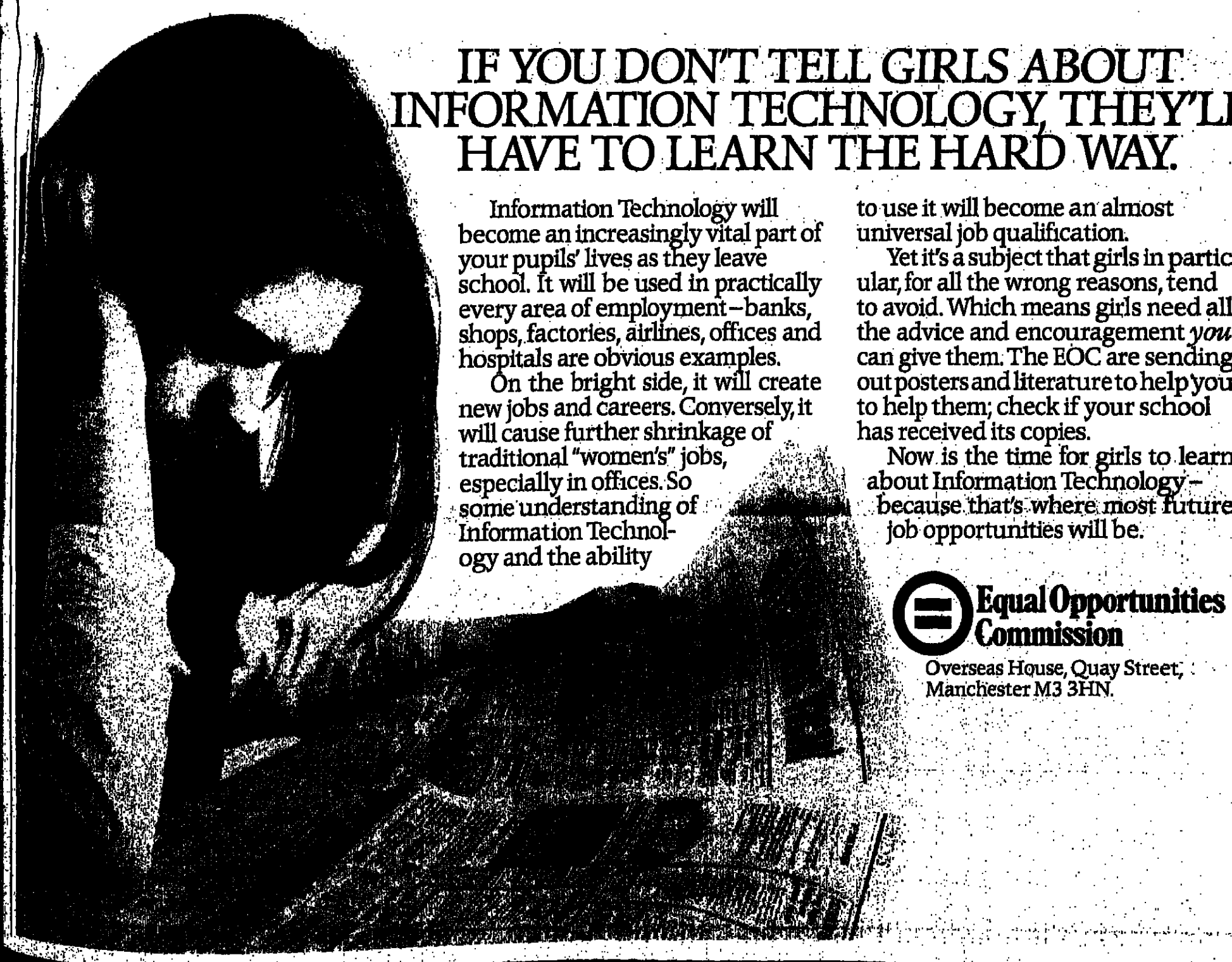
to use it will become an almost universal job qualification.

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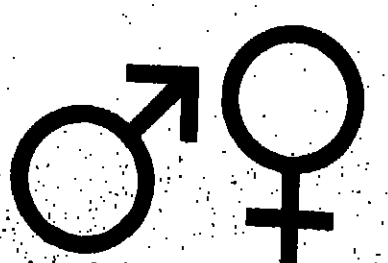


Training courses oversubscribed

Women teachers are getting help — and helping themselves — to develop their careers and their confidence in a number of ways.

Training courses for women were started by the National Union of Teachers last year and have proved so popular that all three courses arranged for this year are heavily oversubscribed.

The courses, run at the union's residential centre at Stoke Rochford, Lincolnshire, are meant to help women play a greater role in the union and develop their careers. They are based on assertiveness training, with emphasis



on the identification and uses of power, and on communication and decision-making.

Sixty teachers have taken part so far. Of these, two have started local train-

ing courses in the Exeter region. Other NUT branches have also arranged courses for women.

Meanwhile, women heads and senior staff in the North West are to get together next month to discuss setting up a support group to further women's professional development.

The meeting is the idea of Mrs Heather Shaw, head of Preston Parklands High School, Preston, who said there was a need both for women to develop their confidence and skills, and to work to change attitudes, particularly at school governor level, where job

short-lists were compiled.

New travel grants 'unfair'

by Biddy Passmore

The Education Ministers scheme to change the arrangements for students' travel costs has been given a cautious welcome by the National Union of Students, who had feared the Government might try to scrap the allowance altogether.

But the NUS has told the Government the figures it proposes for the new flat-rate allowances are not nearly high enough and has questioned the statistics on which they are based. And the union says the new system will be extremely unfair to a small group of students with very high travel costs.

Ministers' proposals, which have been set out for consultation, involve a flat-rate allowance of £100 for those living

in the south-east, £150 for those living in the south-west, and £200 for those living in the north and Wales.

That is to be replaced this autumn by a simpler system involving a larger, flat-rate allocation which would be expected to cover all normal travel expenses.

The Government has asked the NUS, local authority associations and vice-chancellors for their views within two weeks on whether that flat rate should be the same for all students.

But the NUS says that those living at home in the south-east would be £100

But the NUS, which prefers a two-tier system, says the figures are too small. Home students need about £200, they say, and others about £140-150. The students base their figures on a Scottish survey which showed the average annual claim was £142.

If the figures were pitched at that level, they argue, only a very small number of students would have to make extra claims.

Whatever is agreed, the changes will affect all students with grants from the autumn. In a letter to the Department of Education, the NUS would be fairer to phase the introduction of the new system but says it would be too complicated.

ATTENTION ALL SCHOOLS OVER £5000 OF COMPUTER PRIZES TO BE WON

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NEWS

Staffing and pay rises must be kept under control to meet cost of better facilities, says the public spending White Paper. Biddy Passmore reports

Unions fume at being asked to pay for education improvements

Teacher unions have attacked the Government for asking them to tighten their belts for improvements in the education service.

The latest public expenditure White Paper, published last Thursday, makes it clear that planned improvements in spending on books and equipment, support staff and repairs and maintenance over the next three years can only take place if the number of teachers and their pay rises are kept under strict control.

Teacher numbers are assumed to fall by between 18,000 and 22,000 over the next three years and only 3 per cent has been allowed for pay rises next year.

But Mr Doug McAvoy, acting general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Teachers won't thank the Government for expecting them to put their hands in their pockets to pay for what's now left of the education service."

Parents would know where the blame lay for larger classes, fewer books and poorer facilities, he said.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said the Government was "looking for a miracle on a shoestring".

One miracle the White Paper seems to be expecting local authorities to achieve is a cut of 38 per cent - from £414m to £257m - in their spending on school meals. But ministers do not seriously expect them to meet that target. A similar cut was planned last year and never happened.

This "staggering gap" between hope and reality was denounced by Mr Gordon Cunningham, education officer of the Association of County Councils. "The unrealistic on meals washes over the rest of the service," he said. "Because we're bound to spend more on meals, other things will suffer."

The education service as a whole is certain once again to overspend planned spending by a considerable margin next year. "The Government has already gone some way towards admitting this by setting aside an extra sum of £660m for local authority spending in 1984-85. This is not allocated to services but about half could find its way into education."

On paper, however, not only school meals but also adult education and the youth service face large cuts next year. Spending on adult education is planned to fall from £91m to £73m, a drop of one-fifth, before rising again to £80m, while the youth service budget is set to drop by an eighth, from £105m to £92m, before levelling out at £100m in the two subsequent years.

A cut is also planned for the rest of non-advanced further education although the Government expects the number of 16 to 19-year-olds on full-time and sandwich courses to remain high up to 1986-87, having risen by 30 per cent between 1980-81 and 1982-83. (The White Paper does not show the projected switch of funds from the education service to the Manpower Services Commission.)

The Government now plans to set aside up to £4.5m next year for specific grants to support in-service training for further education lecturers - £1.5m more than announced last November.

For school teachers, up to £11m will be earmarked for in-service training both next year and in the two subsequent years.

Nursery education has been given a slight boost since the last spending White Paper. Where the previous plans assumed that the participation rate would fall from about 40 to 36 per cent by 1985-86, it is now expected to stay at about the same level for the next three years and spending plans have been increased accordingly.

Student numbers are also higher than in previous plans, with the total now set to climb from 444,000 in the current year to 449,000 next and then to fall back to 443,000 in 1986-87.

These figures, which would produce an improvement from 13.8 per cent to 14.2 per cent in the proportion of 18-year-olds entering higher education, are based on the lower of two DES projections and may be increased further before Easter.

But universities, polytechnics and colleges will be expected to cope with rising numbers for less money - or, as the White Paper puts it, "the cash provision requires improved efficiency".

Direct grant colleges will lose about 4 per cent of their money over the three-year period, and the plans for university higher education assume a significant worsening in staffing ratios and "some" compulsory redundancies (expected to be about 500).

Spending on science will stay at roughly the same level up to 1986-87. Mr Gyles Radice, Labour education spokesman, commented that the figures quite clearly revealed a 6.9 per cent spending cut for next year. He said he was also doubtful whether the Government would be able to maintain the spending per pupil because the school population was going to fall by 2 per cent while spending was set to decline by 6.9 per cent between 83-84 and 84-85. He also noted that the ratio between defence and education spending had widened.

EDUCATION SPENDING PLANS UP TO 1987

Education spending in cash (£m)									
	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84 estimated	1984-85 plans	1985-86 plans	1986-87 plans
Total education	442	518	629	628	529	518	448	480	450
Capital	7,017	8,084	9,876	10,884	11,671	12,323	12,054	12,410	12,850
Current	7,468	8,602	10,504	11,380	12,200	12,839	12,502	12,880	13,100
Total	7,468	8,602	10,504	11,380	12,200	12,839	12,502	12,880	13,100
Total education and science	7,764	8,942	10,880	11,841	12,682	13,356	13,052	13,460	13,750

Education spending in cost terms (base year 1982-83) £m

Total education and science	12,802	12,438	12,769	12,627	12,882	12,720	11,839
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Schools: pupil teacher numbers (England)

Thousands (except as indicated)									
Academic year	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82	Provisional 1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Total school population (including special schools)	8,562	8,397	8,185	7,973	7,751	7,560	7,399	7,268	7,132
Pupil numbers:									
Underfives	429	429	428	437	458	477	478	488	497
All other primary	4,138	3,990	3,767	3,618	3,435	3,316	3,274	3,279	3,261
Secondary under school leaving age	3,589	3,573	3,530	3,467	3,395	3,308	3,197	3,064	2,931
Over school leaving age	283	293	310	341	348	343	338	335	330
Total (excluding special schools)	8,439	8,275	8,065	7,864	7,634	7,444	7,285	7,148	7,001
School participation rates (per cent)									
Underfives	37.3	39.0	40.2	40.4	40.2	39.9	40.0	40.2	40.1
Over school leaving age	19.2	19.4	20.1	21.9	22.0	22.3	22.5	22.7	22.8
Teachers: numbers employed (full-time equivalent)	441	438	429	420	415	408	399-400	390-395	385-390
Pupil/teacher ratios overall	18.9	18.7	18.8	18.5	18.1	18.0	17.9-18.1	17.8-18.0	17.7-17.9
Special schools									
Pupils	123	122	120	118	117	116	114	112	110
Teachers	17	18	17	18	18	17	17	17	16

Higher and further education: student numbers

Thousands					
Higher education	Actual 1981-82	Actual 1982-83	Provisional 1983-84	Projected 1984-85	Projected 1985-86
Undergraduates in universities (GB) and advanced course students elsewhere (England)	415	431	444	449	449
of which:					
Admissions	143	147	160	149	148
Postgraduates	41	38	38	40	41
Age participation rate GB (%)	13.2	13.4	13.8	14.3	14.3
Part-time students in higher education					
Universities (GB), the Open University and advanced course students elsewhere (England)	270	274	274	274	274
Non-advanced further education					
Home students (full-time equivalent)					
Projected numbers (England)	507	532	580	579	574
of which: 16 to 19-year-olds on full-time and sandwich courses	258	281	301	296	287

Source: "The Government's Expenditure Plans 1984-85 to 1986-87", Cmnd 9143, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, £18.00 net.

ILEA budget attacked over language provision

by Hilary Wilce

The Inner London Education Authority has been attacked over provision for additional teachers of English as a secondary language.

Although the ILEA admits that it is short of more than 200 teachers in its primary schools alone, only 50 extra teachers are provided for in next year's budget, at a cost of £291,000.

Yet this figure is "dishonest", according to Mr Chris Adamson, of the Camden Committee for Community Relations, since the ILEA can back from the Home Office under a grant provision for areas with high immigrant populations. He estimated that the true cost to the authority will be more like £80,000.

In a letter to Mrs Frances Morrell, leader of the ILEA, Mr Adamson asks that this source of funding be acknowledged, and that the £291,000 be used "with Home Office funding - to recruit nearly 200 teachers."

A spokesman for the authority said that the estimated grant from the Home Office for the additional 50 posts was shown elsewhere in the budget estimates, but Mr Adamson maintained that Home Office money will go into "general funds," he said. "It could be used for anything."

The ILEA acknowledged the need for more teachers of English as a second language, but says 50 posts is all it can afford in the coming year.

But heads from some of the schools most affected by a lack of provision in this area are to meet Mr William Stubbs, the Education Officer, to press their case.

The Camden and Westminster areas of the city have urgent and growing problems with children with little or no English, mainly as a result of a highly mobile Bengali population, attracted to the area because of jobs and favourable housing policies.

Last Autumn, the area had 55 children who had been unable to find places in schools. Some schools had vacancies, but were turning away children because, they claimed, they did not have the resources to meet the children's language needs.

However, at a meeting before Christmas, four secondary heads in the area were instructed to take in children. Mr Michael Marland, head of North Westminster School, which took in more than 30 children on the list, said he had been refusing to take children and had the backing of his governors in this.

Mr Paul Turner, head of St William Collins School, said she had had to take on six children. Heads had been "extremely angry" at being told to take on children with language problems without any guarantee of additional resources, she said.

Education then it should be thinking carefully about how it can help teachers do this. I feel the whole emphasis in appointing staff is wrong. They are appointing advisory teachers, but they are not dealing with the language difficulties."

Fifty per cent of advisory teachers in this area should be replaced by teachers of English as a second language, she said.

Education and social services staff from the part of London are to confer on how to identify and deal with problems in this field.

The need for provision in this area in London is shooting up. In primary schools the proportion has risen from 6.2 per cent in 1978 to 13.5 per cent in 1983.

AN INAUGURAL LECTURE
"Purpose and Planning in the Humanities Curriculum"
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NEWS

IN BRIEF

EEC funds development

A hefty injection of European funds will give new impetus to development education in Britain.

The European Economic Community has agreed to give more than £2,000 to a two-year development education programme for 8 to 13-year-olds in Hampshire. Additional funding from the local education authority and the United Kingdom Committee for the United Nations Children's Fund will mean that almost £45,500 will be spent on the programme overall.

The project, based at the World Centre in Winchester, will design a development-orientated curriculum intended to foster interest in global issues among younger children.

Tertiary plan turned down

A scheme to set up a tertiary college in Weston-super-Mare has been turned down by Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary.

The reorganization scheme planned to set up a tertiary college for 1500 pupils based on the Weston-super-Mare Technical College and Broadoak School, an 11 to 18 comprehensive.

But Sir Keith said in a letter to Mr Geoffrey Crump, Avon's chief education officer this week, that he was not convinced that the scheme offered substantial additional benefits to the present arrangements in the town, or that the advantages of a new scheme would outweigh the disruption to Broadoak's sixth-form, or to the further education facilities in the town.

First degrees awarded

The first BA degrees for students of the University of Buckingham were awarded last Saturday, the first graduation ceremony since the granting of Buckingham's Royal Charter a year ago. Graduating students were formally awarded a Licence.

Lord Hailsham, the chancellor, presented degrees to 167 students from 25 countries, 108 in law. Only three gained first class honours, two in accounting and financial management and one in biology and society.

Buckingham's four-term, two-year degree is proving popular, the university says. There were nearly 10 applications for every available place in the new academic year which began in January.

Cash crisis for STOPP

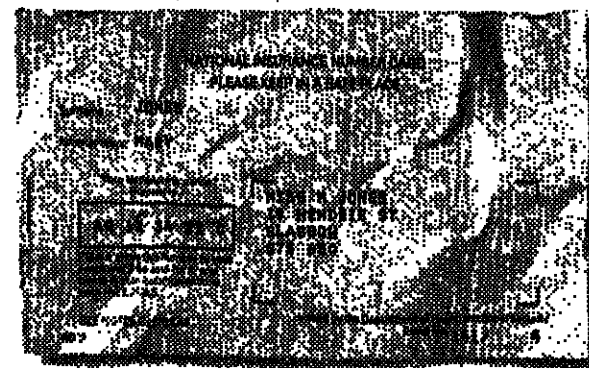
The anti-caring pressure group, STOPP, says it is in a "desperate" financial crisis. Mr Tom Scott, education secretary of the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment said: "We need something like £20,000 a year to keep our campaigning but at present we have only about £5,000."

"At the present rate within two or three months we will not have enough money to keep going in our present form and we will have to revert to being an entirely voluntary organization."

Protest at staff shortage

Northumberland high school governors have asked for a meeting with Sir Keith Joseph to protest about education cuts in the county. It is a letter to the Education Secretary, the governors state that cuts in school maintenance have resulted in a poor standard of repair and decoration and affected the morale of the school community.

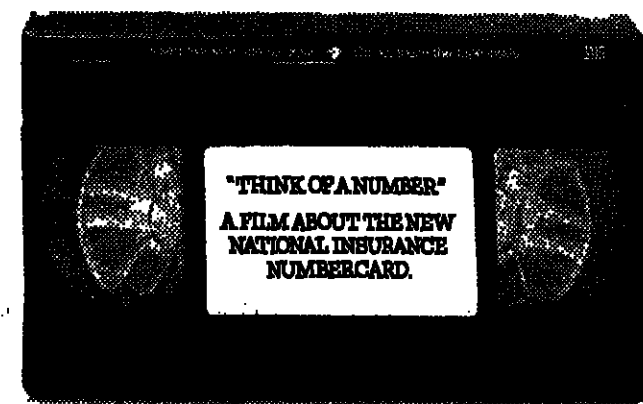
In addition, they say that even a small budget for the county this year would leave schools with 65 to 70 per cent of their curriculum requirements.



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One VHS or Betamax format videocassette is available free to every secondary school in the UK. If your school has not already ordered one, simply fill in the coupon opposite.

U-matic, V2000 and 16mm film formats (as well as VHS and Betamax) are also available on short-term loan to all potential users. Use the coupon to get further details.

Issued by the Department of Health and Social Security.

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TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

The following Extras are planned for:

MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
2 Computers in Education	6 History	4 English	1 Art & Craft
9 Primary Books	13 Geography	11 Mathematics	8 Children's Books II
16 Winter Sports	20 Resources for Learning	18 Reference Books	15 Home Economics
23 Science	27 Health Education	25 Computers in Education	22 English as a Foreign Language
30 English as a Foreign Language			29 Reading

For details of Advertising please contact John Ladbroke, Advertisement Manager, Priory House, St. John's Lane, London EC1M 4BX. Tel. 01-253 3000.

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Further details from:
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NOTICEBOARD

PEOPLE...

SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS



Mrs Beryl Paterson (above, left) is the new head of Kintore Way Nursery School, South London.

Mrs Gay Egginton (above, right) to be head of Laurel Bank School, Glasgow. Mr John Chatter to be head of Haywood Comprehensive School, Nottingham. Mr Alan Walker to be head of Archbishop Holgate's Upper School, York.

Dr Michael Frost to be principal of the proposed York Sixth Form College, which is to open in 1985.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Mr Richard Bunker to be director of education, West Sussex, on the retirement of Mr Roy Potter. Mr Raja Gomez has been appointed director of the Commonwealth Youth Programme in the Secretariat's Human Resources Development Group. Mr John Bedoe, head of Walker D'Ayncourt Primary School, Nottinghamshire, is the new president of the English Schools Swimming Association.

FELLOWSHIPS

Sir Frederick Dainton and Mr Marilyn Rose have been awarded honorary fellowships of Goldsmiths' College, University of London.

CONFERENCES...

February 29

Freedom of Information Policies for Information Age Professionals in 1984: a one-day conference on the political, economic, technological and professional aspects of information policy, organized by the Association of Assistant Librarians at Birmingham and Midland Institute Conference Centre. Inquiries to Peter Keelen, The Library, UWIST, PO Box 94, Cardiff.

March 3

National Council of Women one-day conference on Peace Education in Schools at the WCA, Great Russell Street, London WC1, from 10.30am. Speakers: Sir Keith Joseph, Dr David Hicks, Ms Stefanie Ducek and Mr John Slater. For details phone Oxford 249235. Entry by programme £2.

March 30-April 2

An Easter conference on the life and work of Malcolm Lowry at Goldsmiths' College, University of London. Speakers include Professor Muriel Bradbrook, Sir Stephen Spender and Melvyn Bragg. Details from the Central Secretariat, Goldsmiths' College, New Cross, London SE1 4NW.

April 9-13

Alternatives for daily living for people with a severe disability: an international seminar organized by the International Cerebral Palsy Society and the ECC's Bureau for Action in Favour of Disabled People at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, to look at practical examples of community-based projects for all types of disability. Inclusive cost £140. Details from Mrs Anita Loring, ICPS, 5 Netherall Gardens, London NW3 5RN.

April 13-15

The Micros and Primary Education (MAPE) conference at Newman College, Birmingham. Speakers include Mike Thomas, John Cull, Johnny Ball, Anita Strain and Dave Jackson. Fee £24 non-residential, £41 residential (£5 reduction for MAPE members). Details from Miss Senga Whiteman, Newman.

College, Genners Lane, Bartley Green, Birmingham B32 2NT.

April 15-18

A study conference for governors in further and higher education will be held at The Further Education Staff College, Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Bristol BS18 6RG. Details from the registrar.

July 29-August 3

King Alfred's College, Winchester, in collaboration with the University of Calgary, is cosponsoring a summer workshop on the habilitation of developmentally handicapped young people and adults. Details from Dr Robin Jackson, King Alfred's College, Winchester SO23 4NR.

EVENTS...

February 29

Professor Bernard Crick will give the 1984 Haverstock Lecture on Politics and the Ideals of Education at 8pm at Haverstock School, Chalk Farm, London NW1 8AS. Applications for tickets, which are free, should be addressed to the general office at the school. Tel: 01-267 0975.

March 2-3

An Educational Software Fair at Dainton's School, West Lavington, Wiltshire for primary, secondary and special school teachers. Details from Mr Peter Harris, head of computing, Dainton's School.

March 3

Women and the Family—a day school with talks, film booklet, etc. for men and women at the College of Ripon and York St John, York. Details from Irish Newton, The College, Lord Mayor's Walk, York YO3 7EX.

March 6, 7, 8, 13

Professor David Phillips will give the Preparatory Schools Lecture on "Sound Science" at 3pm at the Royal Institution. Inquiries to Mr John Hewitt, Wallop School, Hanger Hill, Weybridge, Surrey.

INFORMATION WANTED...

A teacher examining the application of business methods to school organization and management would like to hear from anyone with practical experience of such schemes. Please write to Mr Nicholas Bennett, senior master, Christchurch Secondary School for Girls, Margate Hall Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 5XL.

The National Children's Bureau has launched a three-year development project funded by the DHSS and the Scottish Office to investigate the involvement of parents of young children in the planning and provision of services for families with children under five. If you know about or are a member of a scheme or service which is attempting to provide a service in partnership with parents, the project officers, Gillian Pugh and Eric de'Ath, NCB, 8 Wakley Street, London EC1, would like to hear from you.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS...

Primary Science Skills is a special insert with the spring edition of Teaching Science, the journal of the School Natural Science Society. It deals with the scientific skills and attitudes that can be fostered among 7 to 11-year-olds, and is available from the Association for Science Education (Publications Department), College Lane, Hatfield, Herts.

Creative History from East Anglian Sources is a new series of booklets by the Centre for East Anglian Studies and the Norfolk and Norwich branch of the Historical Association. It aims to offer first-hand impressions of the past by presenting substantial documentation of relatively narrow topics. The first two titles are Wymondham Inventories 1590-1641, and A Case of Privacy in the Sixteenth Century. They are available from the Centre for East Anglian Studies, University of East Anglia, Earlham Hall, Norwich NR4 7TJ. Price £1.75 each including postage.

Compiled by Mary Cuckshank

Minister blocks MSC-funded television series

Plans for a major extension of educational broadcasting to be funded by the Manpower Services Commission have been scotched by the unexpected intervention of Mr Peter Morrison, employment minister. He has told the Commission it may only spend money on programmes to improve the image of Government schemes such as the Youth Training Scheme.

For two years the Commission has been working on plans to use television outside the normal broadcasting hours to provide instruction and information to trainees, including teachers. Its officials saw this as a cheap and effective way of getting regular in-service training to the huge number of people involved in new mass training programmes such as the YTS and the Open Tech. And in 1982 Mr Norman

4's staff believed, the MSC had not allowed them to give the companies enough time. But by last week Ms Naomi Sargent, Channel 4's education commissioning editor, and the MSC's Jean Sargeant had agreed to offer the series to one of the six independent production companies which were in the running. Then last Friday, just as a letter was about to go out to the chosen company, Ms Sargeant rang to say that the MSC had decided that it was not going to use television after all.

Mr Morrison had heard at the last minute what was planned and told the Commission officials that he could not justify allowing the MSC to spend money on any kind of educational broadcasting.

MSC headquarters were unwilling this week to admit that their decision had been a direct result of Mr Morrison's orders. They insisted that it was simply that the Commission's officials had come to the conclusion, late in the day admittedly, that the money would be better spent on other ways of training trainees. Under pressure they agreed that "we were aware that the Minister had views on the matter".

A Channel 4 spokesman said that they regretted the MSC's decision to cancel the pilot after so many months of intensive and detailed negotiations. "It is clear that the reasons for the decision had nothing to do with Channel 4. We were very interested in the pilot, which represented an extension of the role of educational broadcasting, and which we hoped would pave the way to programmes serving a very wide group of people."

"We're not quite sure how the decision affects the longer term prospects, but they do not seem very hopeful."

But contracts have already been signed for the MSC to part-fund programmes on the BBC, Thames, Scottish Television and Yorkshire TV. They total around £100,000.

Mr David Young, the MSC's chairman, had, it is understood, discussed with his brother Stuart, chairman of the BBC, how it might develop further programmes. But practical co-operation between the two organizations is likely to depend on whether the MSC thinks it worthwhile keeping its broadcasting unit in existence following Mr Morrison's order.

Edited by Mark Jackson

Tabbi, then Employment Secretary, agreed that the MSC should be prepared to pay the cost of making such programmes.

The Commission's ideas found a ready ear at Channel 4, whose chief, Mr Jeremy Isaacs, has from the start wanted the channel to break new ground in educational broadcasting, and regards school leavers and young adults as groups whom broadcasting should serve most effectively.

The MSC set up a special team, the Broadcasting Resources Unit under Alan Sargent, whom they brought in from the Independent Broadcasting Authority where she was

chief executive, to develop a broadcasting policy and plan. Late last year, after months of negotiation over the delicate issues involved in the editorial control of the programmes it was agreed that Channel 4 should commission a pilot series of six programmes to be paid for by the MSC.

They were invited early this year from production organizations for the £20,000 series, which was to be aimed at people involved in YTS schemes—trainees, teachers, and personnel staff and supervisors in industry and local authority projects.

It was hoped that the big television companies would put forward proposals far more realistic—because, Channel

YTS drop-out rate higher than stated

Nearly one in six of the youngsters who last year joined the Youth Training Scheme had left by the end of the year. This means that the scheme has failed to reach its target by a bigger margin than the official figures have revealed.

Last week, Mr Peter Morrison, the Employment Minister of State, said in a parliamentary answer that about 48,000 trainees had left their training programmes by the end of December, when there were 257,000 in the scheme. He said that some would have switched to other YTS programmes and some found jobs.

Some youngsters had left the scheme by the end of October—by which time a number of schemes authorized ahead of the official September opening date had been operating for several months. But the rate of loss shot up by the end of November, although only around 20,000 more had joined the scheme during the month, the outflow had tripled to 40,000.

The Youth Training Board, which received a report on the figures at its meeting last week, is still angry at the Government's rejection of its attempts to keep the existing balance of Mode B1 provision in the scheme.

Mr Davis Young, Commission chairman, has agreed that its director Mr Geoffrey Holland, should prepare a full report setting out the board's role and powers. Some members are talking about calling for the board to disband itself if the report does not make it clear that they have rights which cannot be overridden at ministerial whim.

Young in conference clashes over TVEI

By Richard Garner

Mr David Young, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, last week clashed with teachers at a conference as he sought to defend the Government's new Technical and Vocational Education Initiative.

The clashes came when he answered questions from about 70 delegates gathered at the National Union of Teachers' secondary schools conference at Stoke Rochford.

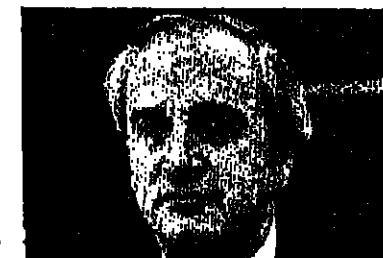
Mr Young said the scheme was being introduced to motivate youngsters when they would otherwise become bored with school. "It is to broaden and enlarge the curriculum and not to make technical schools or to turn pupils into sheep and goats," he added.

However, Dr Walter Roy, chairman of the union's education committee, rejected the argument that schools had failed youngsters. "I can show you for every truant, 50 people who aren't truant," he said. "I can show you for every failure success throughout the ability range."

"I would say in a world that's turbulent and disturbed and which has social problems on a magnitude we've not known before, it is the schools that are sometimes islands of civilized life," he added.

Mr Barbara Lloyd, from Neath, West Glamorgan, added that she was worried that the TVEI would lead to many middle class parents opting to send their children to independent schools and deserting the state sector.

"They don't want anything to do with anything that smacks of vocational training," she added. "I'm wondering whether it is going to end in a big



David Young... broaden curriculum

boost for the independent schools which are offering traditional courses leading on to universities. That's what the parents will be paying for to the detriment of our schools."

Mr Young also clashed with the audience when he said he regarded it as a "great pity that we've spent so much time in bringing about comprehensive schools without giving equivalent time and effort and thought to what actually happens inside those schools".

Mr Harry Dowson, chairman of the NUT's secondary education advisory committee, said: "The politicians may have been arguing about comprehensive education but we have been talking about what goes on in the schools and not about how the schools should be structured."

The conference went on to pass a motion calling on the union's executive to oppose any further extension of the TVEI because of the effect the scheme was having on the principle of comprehensive education.

However, agreed that if new schemes did go ahead, despite NUT opposition, the union should press local education authorities to continue financing them if the MSC pulled out.

Mary Kelly on the annual conference in Downpatrick of the NAS/UWT's Northern Ireland branch

Minister defends redundancies

Mr Nicholas Scott, Northern Ireland Education Minister, has defended recent redundancies among teachers, claiming that any improvement in pupil/teacher ratios would have a "drastic impact" on the rest of the education budget.

Mr Scott warned the conference that money for a substantial increase in teaching posts was unlikely to be available.

Two women delegates walked out in protest as Mr Scott claimed the current pupil/teacher ratios were at their highest level with the number of pupils per teacher down from 19.0 in 1980 to 18.7 in 1983.

He said school authorities and parents should be working towards a carefully planned rationalization of school provision to avoid adversely affecting the education of pupils.

Defending the recent decision to reduce teaching staff in Belfast secondary intermediate schools by 98, Mr Scott said: "The facts of life are that pupil numbers are dropping and drop-

ping quite dramatically in the Belfast secondary school sector—850 between 1981 and '82, 1,200 between 1982 and '83 and very likely even more than 1,200 between 1983 and '84."

He also defended his department against criticism for its failure to finance a redeployment scheme at a time of radical reorganization of schools in the Province, claiming that officials had prepared a draft procedure but agreement on it had not been reached between teachers' unions and employers.

But his comments were angrily rejected by executive member Mr Eamonn O'Kane, who said it was totally false to say the scheme had been held up because unions and employers had failed to agree: "There was agreement, but the Department of Education said they could not provide the money necessary to finance the scheme."

Mr O'Kane also challenged the Minister's assertion that rationalization was being conducted on educational and not financial considerations.

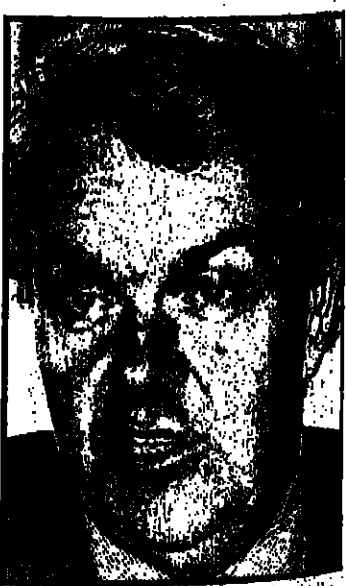
"There are schools being closed in Belfast and the teachers who are being made redundant could be taken on in schools in other parts of the country if we had a properly financed redeployment scheme."

Outgoing president of the union, Mr Marcus Duignan, said the department had behaved with duplicity in denying teachers a properly funded redeployment scheme during a major rationalization programme.

Referring to the department's moves to amalgamate schools, streamline external examinations and remove controls on school intakes, Mr Duignan said they had played a "confidence trick" on teachers.

"They pretend to agree to something but at the last minute plead inability to pay, knowing there is no consumer legislation in industrial bargaining."

He said a shopkeeper who attempted such "chicanery" would be accused of fraud.



Nicholas Scott

Union pledges action over 1-year contracts

Urgent union action is to be taken against the growing practice of appointing teachers on one-year contracts.

Mr Bob Margrain, vice president, told the annual conference that more than 300 teachers in Northern Ireland were on one year contracts, many of whom could have been given permanent positions.

He said the number of newly qualified teachers finding permanent posts had fallen from 613 to 237 over the past four years.

Mr Margrain said the trend towards giving temporary contracts had developed partly because it provided curriculum flexibility and a wider range

of teachers among permanent teachers.

But he said the practice was "anti-trade union", because the protective agreements negotiated by unions were threatened by the increasing number of temporary teachers who were entitled to the same rights as their full-time colleagues.

He added that the temporary contracts amounted to "unofficial assessment", which made young teachers anxious to impress their employers in order to have their contracts renewed.

Mr Tom McKee, the union's regional officer, said there were many cases of temporary contracts being given out in schools where there was a permanent vacancy.

Block on community school cash 'a scandal'

The union's national president described as "scandalous" the refusal by the Government to provide extra finance to allow secondary schools in Northern Ireland to develop into community schools.

In his address to the conference, Mr Gerry Lee said there were hundreds of community schools operating throughout England and Wales, providing an excellent service for the communities in which they were placed.

"It is economic madness not to maximize the use of our secondary schools," he said. "There is an urgent need throughout the country for more community schools. If we refuse to

open the doors of secondary schools after 4 o'clock, the alternative is to pour millions of pounds into the building of separate community centres. What have these got that you don't already have in your neighbourhood secondary school?"

"Parents will use the local school because it is convenient and because they know the teachers. It is also an eminently reasonable way of making use of surplus accommodation in schools."

Mr Lee said he was at a loss to understand why Mr Nicholas Scott, the Education Minister, was so reluctant to bring Northern Ireland into line with the rest of the United Kingdom.

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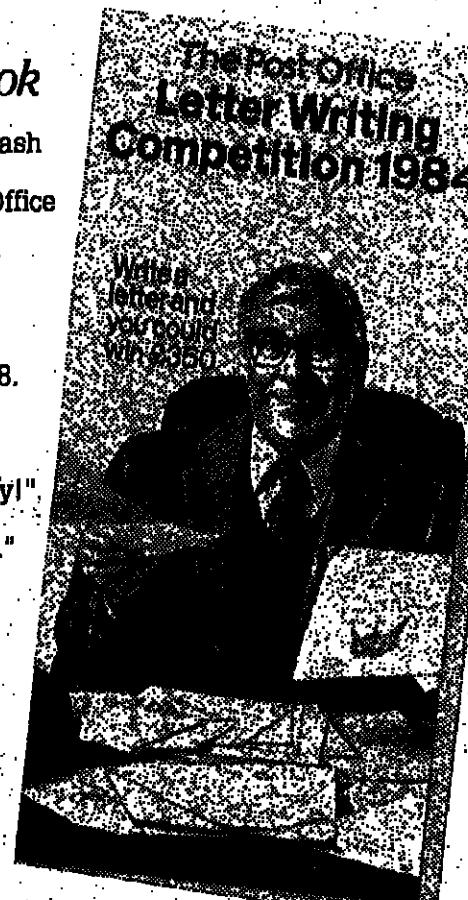
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OVERSEAS

An end to serving time

UNITED STATES

Peter David on another proposal to revamp high schools

A former dean of Harvard University's Graduate School of Education called last week for revolutionary changes in American education that would end compulsory schooling for most adolescents.

The proposal, developed after a major five-year study of American high schools, is being enthusiastically backed by two prominent school associations, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the National Association of Independent Schools.

Mr Theodore Sizer, the author of the report, takes issue with the findings of other recent reports on American high school education. He alleges that their emphasis on longer school days, more formal requirements, and a massive infusion of extra public funds is unrealistic and possibly harmful.

He calls instead for a major restructuring of schools that would give

teachers and hands more control of the curriculum, make pupils more responsible for the pace of their own education, and eliminate the grouping of children by age in class.

Mr Sizer's controversial recommendations are based on the notion that the secret of good schools is to give pupils a set of incentives that would make them work harder. A traditional incentive - the struggle to get in college - has disappeared with gr... or access to higher education, he says.

"As soon as higher education became something to which any citizen around the age of 18 was entitled, it lost its power to affect what happened in the high school. Open admission to college may have been necessary, owing to the inadequacy of schooling for some young citizens and the consequences of rigid re-grading, but it has been a mixed blessing."

Although he does not advocate a reduction in higher education opportunities, Mr Sizer calls for big changes in the way high school diplomas - the essential requirement for college entrance - are awarded. Instead of awarding the diploma only after a pupil had "served time" and amassed the required number of course credits, schools should award the diploma to



Individual pupils whenever they demonstrated an agreed level of competence.

"This approach would give the students a clear, academically substantive goal, the obviously appropriate priority. It would also usefully undermine the tyranny of age-grading. A student can elect to demonstrate his mastery when he is prepared to do so, not just when his birthday signals that he ought to be ready," the report says.

New life in the old system

IRISH REPUBLIC

John Walshe on the new curriculum and exams board

Mr Sizer's report, published in a book, *Hance's Compromise*, is the first of three to be based on a five-year study of high schools. The project was sponsored by the Association of Secondary School Principals and the Association of Independent Schools.

The two associations intend now to seek volunteer schools willing to implement one of the report's recommendations in a 10-year experimental project.

Schools that want to participate in the project will be selected this spring. First, however, they will be expected to embrace a set of common principles. These include:

The school should focus on helping adolescents to use their minds well, but make no claim to offer them other social and vocational services.

The school's goals should be simple. Each student should master some centrally important intellectual skills and knowledge. These will reflect traditional academic disciplines but will not be packaged as traditional subjects with separate departments and procedures.

Teaching and learning should be "personalized" as much as possible. The use of time, the choice of subjects and teaching materials should be up to the headmaster and staff rather than external agencies.

Students enter and leave the school when they show basic competencies, regardless of age. There is therefore no strict age grading and no system of credits gained by time spent in class.

The school should stress values of "unfettered expectation", trust and decency. Parents should be treated as essential collaborators.

Class boycotts fan fears of new round of riots

SOUTH AFRICA

Black pupils' frustrations reach boiling point again

The death of a pupil, class boycotts and violent disturbances have ushered in the 1984 academic year in African schools in the Transvaal, a special correspondent writes.

Some black political personalities have publicly warned of a repeat of the 1976 riots and have sent telegrams to the Government asking for urgent meetings, but other observers do not believe that the tension has reached a critical level.

The centre of the current disturbances is Pretoria, where three black pupils involved in demonstrations around the country, many of them focused on local grievances such as dissatisfaction with a teacher.

The rash of incidents in 1984, though so far limited, reflects the fact that life is becoming even harder for black school-leavers.

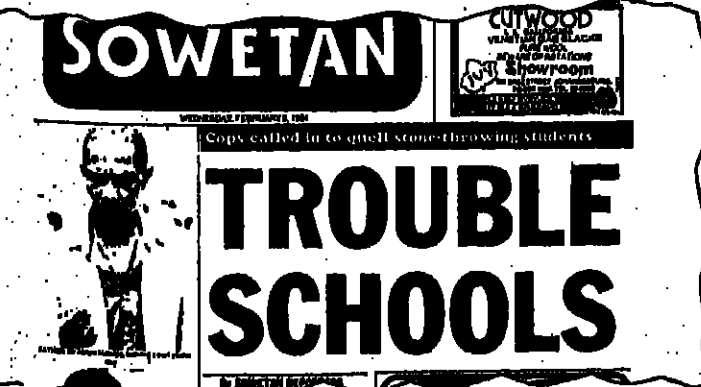
The matriculation pass rate in African schools at the end of last year was barely half, while only about 1 in 10 matriculation candidates attained university entrance qualification. These results, like those at the end of 1982, are among the worst ever.

In addition, South Africa is still languishing in its worst economic recession since the Second World War, and jobs for school-leavers are getting harder to come by.

Many pupils who failed their examinations at the end of last year are finding it extremely difficult to be readmitted to school. A few years ago the Government decided that pupils aged 20 or over should no longer be readmitted.

The Government maintains that pupils who fail and are now too old to be readmitted to school should attend adult education centres established in some of the townships in the last few years.

The students point out, however, that many of them missed two years of schooling as a result of the 1976 riots.



Showering trouble: headlines in the black press reflect the continuing unrest in crowded and under-funded schools.

Second private university due to open in the autumn

WEST GERMANY

West Germany is poised to open its second private university, a move which critics have attacked as an erosion of the traditional general right of all to higher education.

The private university, a college of business management, plans to open in Koblenz, Rheinland-Pfalz, next October. The first private venture, a medical university at Witten-Herdecke in Northrhine-Westphalia, started last May and there are plans for another medical university in Bavaria.

According to the business school's founder, Professor Udo Giltberg, it will be financed solely by donations from private industry.

Professor Giltberg and his partner, in the venture, the Koblenz Chamber of Trade and Industry and private polytechnic in Hagen, have so far raised three-quarters of the \$2m they need to start in the autumn.

He is confident that the money will

be raised by then and that the institution will be able to meet the state demand that it offers access, irrespective of students' means, by providing a 20 per cent quota of free places.

Students paying their own way have to find about \$2,000 a year for a four-year course which will include a year at an overseas university.

The institution will be unashamedly elitist. It sees its role as training the high-performers, which, it thinks, the state universities are failing to produce. "We are aiming for class, not mass," said Professor Giltberg.

Accordingly, entry will be highly selective. Only 30 to 60 students will be taken on this year, although this is planned to rise to 350 within five years. Mainstream academics are pleading their help. Professor Karl Rose, of Mainz University, who is on the governing body of the new venture, said he believed that "higher education should not be the sole preserve of the state."

Caroline Cues

OVERSEAS



The battle of the bulge continues

ZIMBABWE

Secondary schools are struggling to cope with a record first-year intake. Report by Mike Williams.

Zimbabwe's largest-ever intake of first-year secondary pupils has finally begun school - two weeks behind schedule.

The delay occurred because the country's 965 secondary schools were unable to cope with the huge increase in the number of 14-year-olds transferring from primary school (755, January 20).

The exact size of the enrolment will not be known for several months, but Ministry of Education officials estimate it at 150,000 - an increase of 40,000 over last year's figure. Almost 169,000 pupils completed primary school 7 last year and although all of them are legally entitled to secondary school places, between 20 and 30 per cent are expected to have left school.

Mr Samuel Mumbengegwi, the Ministry's chief education officer, said: "We're still working flat out, but this is the first year since Independence in which there are not crowds of parents outside our doors complaining that there are no places for their

children. We are very optimistic." The form 1 overflow is being handled by converting 344 of Zimbabwe's 4,500 primary schools into "upper tops" - primary schools with form 1 added on. Extra places have also been provided by "hot-seating" - using the same classroom for morning and afternoon sessions.

But it is the shortage of teachers that has posed the biggest problem this year. About 3,000 new teachers graduate from training colleges every year, but an additional 2,000 student teachers have had to be pressed into service as well.

Ex-patriate recruitment is expected to add a few more, but the numbers may not be significant. Despite a vigorous overseas recruiting drive there were only 211 ex-patriate teachers on the Ministry staff last year.

Rising school rolls have been a regular feature in Zimbabwe since primary school fees and secondary school entrance restrictions were abolished after Independence in 1980. Primary enrolment jumped from 819,000 in 1979 to 2,000,000 last year while secondary enrolment rose from 66,000 to 316,000.

This rapid expansion of pupil numbers has led to a marked increase in the number of unqualified teachers. In 1980, 8,000 of the country's 32,000 teachers were considered untrained - lacking the Zimbabwean standard of an O level education plus four years' teacher training. This year about 30,000 of Zimbabwe's 65,000 teachers are untrained and most of the unqualified staff are teaching primary classes.

Belles ring changes

ITALY

In the small town of Castelmaggiore on the outskirts of Bologna, the 500 students and 15 teachers of a technical institute have gone on strike. The bone of contention: freedom to exercise their right to a week of "alternative education", which was recently suspended by the Ministry of Education.

Organized by the students for the students, the now five-year-old experiment in alternative education allows students to choose a subject they are interested in and conduct a seminar, with experts, for one week out of the school year.

All this came to an end in this upper-secondary technical school when the students, who had unanimously agreed to exercise their right to a week of "alternative education", which was recently suspended by the Ministry of Education.

This objection, which some say amounts to a boycott, started when a group of Christian Democrat members of parliament got wind that "prostitutes were teaching sex education in the schools of Castelmaggiore", and demanded that the Minister of Education put a stop to it.

Reluctant to assume the responsibility of a veto and even more hesitant to change the red light to green, the ministry reacted with a circular that suspended off-curriculum activities in the school with the request "to know more about your alternative education programmes which appear to have

gone beyond the discretion of school authorities".

However, one of the institute's teachers countered, "sex education is not the subject, and prostitutes were not called upon to lecture, qualified as they may be to do so. They were invited, along with doctors, sociologists and psychologists, to participate in a debate on male-female rapport and its relationship to prostitution."

"The majority of students requesting the topic were young girls, which should give educators something to think about."

Many parents, whose attitude in some cases moved from indifference to rapid indignation following the publicity demonstrated in solidarity with the students and teachers. A father of four said: "I confess that I had reservations, even prejudices perhaps, but this veto has convinced me more than ever that no matter how unpleasant the topic, our children must be encouraged to exercise their right to knowledge."

And the *belles de nuit*? Demonstrating in Rome on the ministry steps, the self-defined "fireflies" (the name of a periodical in defence of their civil rights) brandished posters admonishing that the Middle Ages are back and here to stay.

Most disappointed of all are the students, who had to come to terms with the false hopes raised in them by the educational policy of freedom of choice. "The minute a taboo subject is broached, the bureaucrats go back on their word," says one, "and it's not fair."

Rita di Giuseppe

No more reforms - only renovations

FRANCE

Teachers are being urged to work in teams. Mary Follain reports

When is a reform not a reform? When is a "renovation", says the French Ministry of Education, which is quick to correct anyone who uses the word "reform" in connection with its plans for comprehensive schools.

There have been at least 40 reforms in French education since 1945, many of which have backfired, and M Alain Savary, the Education Minister, has been trying a more subtle approach to the problems he faces in secondary education.

Despite the softly-softly tactics, about 70 per cent of teachers in France's long-suffering comprehensive schools took part in a one-day strike at the end of last month in protest against his plans for the next academic year.

At least a third of pupils fail to get through the first four years of secondary education and many are funnelled off into technical or professional schools at the end of the second year. Only the lucky ones make it to the lycées.

The Haby reform of 1975 is universally blamed for the increased failure rate. M Rene Haby, the former Education Minister, introduced mixed-ability classes in the collège with extra teaching where necessary. In practice, few actually received any extra tuition and more pupils than ever before found themselves repeating a year. The common curriculum which he and his Ministry devised was also a catastrophe.

President Mitterrand's Socialist Government took the view that although M Haby's approach was more democratic than the streaming which had preceded it, it presupposed that all pupils were of equal ability. At the request of the Ministry of Education, Professor Louis Lévy of Strasbourg University produced a hefty report recommending a return to selecting in maths, French and modern languages (TES, July 2, 1982 and March 4, 1983).

The real innovation in his report was the suggestion that teachers should work in teams, closely coordinating their plans and meeting frequently to

discuss the implementation of his numerous recommendations, most of which have been adopted by the Ministry. Some schools were already working along similar lines and M Savary commented tactfully, "too many people think that a teacher's sole task is to give lessons. Every teacher knows that this is not so and that they have other responsibilities."

Many French teachers are dedicated and spend long hours preparing lessons and marking homework, but Professor Legrand insisted that they should all spend more of their time on the school premises, in closer contact with their pupils.

His suggestion that teachers should act as tutors or advisers to pupils guiding them in their studies has also been taken up by M Savary.

Perhaps the most explosive innovation is that the lesser-qualified secondary teachers should have their teaching quotas reduced from 21 to 18 hours a week. Instead of teaching for the full 21 hours they would teach for 18 hours only, which would leave them three hours for staff meetings.

Some of the more highly-qualified colleagues, who are traditionally only required to teach 15 to 18 hours a week, regard this as an erosion of their hard-won privileges.

Instead of imposing these reforms, or "renovations", from above, M Savary began with a day of discussion and debate in secondary schools all over the country last March. In line with the Government's decentralization policy, comprehensives will be given greater autonomy in the use of their resources and the reform itself has been launched on a purely voluntary basis.

Many colleges are already experimenting this year and their progress is being monitored by the Ministry. Between 10 and 15 per cent will be given the green light to implement the new methods in September and the Ministry says it already has too many volunteers. All secondary schools will be encouraged to follow suit and they are all expected to conform by 1988.

Last month's strike showed that there is serious opposition to the plans and the Ministry admits as much. "Not many teachers are used to working in teams and many are afraid," one of its spokesmen said. "But little by little they come to see the advantages and those who have been doing it say that after two or three years they don't want to go back to the old ways."

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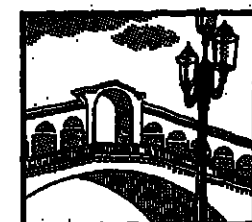
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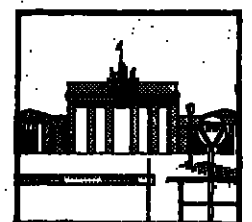


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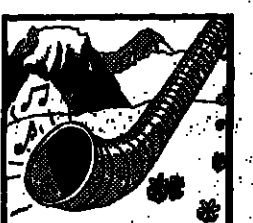
4 What is the name of this statue and where would one expect to find her?



5 This famous Belgian statue was designed by Jérôme Duquenois. What is he called?



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LETTERS

Burnham: time for structural alterations

Sir - It is well known that the Burnham structure for teacher salaries is outdated and militates against the professional development of teachers in a contracting service. What is perhaps more important is that we should appreciate the broader tapestry against which the profession and its future need to be viewed.

We still talk about "The Industrial Revolution" when referring to the establishment of manufacturing processes within a factory system in the late eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries, when really this was just the forerunner of a whole series of revolutions, and their resulting technologies, now occurring so close together that the advance is more or less continuous.

The challenge this throws out for our educative process is both exciting and immense.

No longer can any teacher expect to do much the same things in the same way year after year. All teachers need to develop and refine their skills continuously and all must also develop a broad perspective, an overview of education that extends way beyond their classrooms and their schools.

We are already an all-graduate entry profession and our new entrants, at this time of contraction, are of the highest calibre we have experienced. If we are to place on all of these skilled

teachers the demands of constant evaluation, re-education, of regular innovation and change in the content and methodology of their professional practice, we must urgently rethink the structure of the profession and their status within it.

The headteacher's role, as always, will be crucial. He is needed to plan and initiate the changes, ensure effective monitoring and control and initiate staff to develop the necessary new skills and approaches, as well as to explain and justify it all to the many concerned partners outside school. Heads, like teachers, must be selected properly, trained well and rewarded appropriately.

I appeal to teacher and employer associations, alike, to keep on talking in Burnham and to do so with some sense of urgency and to determine to reach the kind of solution to the structure of our profession that the fast-changing world demands. If central government places any sort of priority on relevant and flexible educational provision for our young, it must be prepared to make the necessary investment at this crucial time.

PAUL SCUDAMORE
Chairman of Salaries, Pensions and Conditions of Service Committee
National Association of Head Teachers

Contract needed

Sir - Peter Smith's article (Platform, TES, February 3) contains much food for thought but it prompts me to write, as one who is in favour of a properly drawn contract between teachers and their employers.

The present system is virtually unworkable. Phrases like "reasonably required" are an absolute godsend to authorities and agitators.

There should be a clearly defined contract, enforceable at law if necessary, by which the obligations of both employer and employee to each other are stated and which should leave as little room as possible for "interpretation".

Employers should have to provide agreed standards of accommodation and physical provision, of capitation at a level set by HMI, of ancillary help in workshops and laboratories and in secretarial tasks and should be forced

to equip and to staff schools so that optimum class sizes can be achieved. There should also be a clear definition of a teacher's contractual day. How long before and after the start of a session must they be on the premises; what is their entitlement to a mid-session break.

The amount of time to be given to class-contact, preparation and marking and attendance at parents' evenings should be stipulated and provision should be made for overtime payments, not time off in lieu, where these periods are exceeded.

Finally, teachers' representatives must be prepared to accept the principle of redeployment within an authority, thus avoiding the current situation where some schools cannot provide certain specialist subjects while others have surplus staff in those subjects.

W. SEDDON
26 Winding Way
Leeds

Racial stereotypes

Sir - Ann Dummett (TES, Letters, February 10) argues that "the only way to test an unintentional prejudice is by observation, not by questions whose replies must arise from the conscious intentions of the respondent."

If Mrs Dummett believes her own rhetoric, one is tempted to ask why the Rampton Report, for which she was partly responsible, contained no evidence of such observation. It merely alleged that negative stereotyping of West Indian children is widespread within the teaching profession and assumed that the stereotyping necessarily influences a teacher's relationship with West Indian children.

My findings (TES, December 30) do not contradict the allegation; rather they suggest that teachers may operate simultaneously at two different levels, accepting the stereotype in principle whilst acknowledging its partial or complete irrelevance for a particular child.

The point at issue is whether or not the teachers in my study, whose comments on some of their West Indian pupils were in conflict with the racial stereotype, will none the less succumb to that stereotype in their dealings with the children concerned. Mr Dummett appears to believe that they will, although without evidence, her article of faith looks suspiciously like blind prejudice.

GEORGE FREYSHORT
Faculty of Education
New College, Durham

Phonic isolation

Sir - Mona McKee's claim to teach children reading (Talkback, January 13) using the whole brain contradicts her premise that "reading which depends on pictures, rote learning, context or guessing is not reading."

On their own, neither introductory phonics, which she proposes, nor introductory look-and-say, which she opposes, lay sound foundations for proficiency in reading. Many children do survive a heavy emphasis on one particular strategy during their first experiences of reading but it is the failure of teachers like Ms McKee to acknowledge a more eclectic approach to infant reading which "turns too many people into educational cripples."

I have no doubt that many of the 10 per cent of young adults she refers to

who cannot read a job advert learned to decode in phonic isolation and today their comprehension is impaired by an inability to utilize non-semantic information like syntactic or semantic context - using their whole brain!

MALCOLM LAVERY
22c St Marks Rise
London E8

Reading strategies

Sir - Learning to read is a question of using a combination of different strategies of which phonics is only one. The phonic analysis of words is a skill that can be taught, and often is, as the child's reading ability develops and improves. To try to teach phonics in any kind of detail before a child has "taken off" with his reading is to make

decoding an end in itself instead of a means to an end.

Schools must use phonics. Teaching a child to read without reference to grapho-phonetic relationships is almost impossible. The promotion, if not the sale, of phonic materials continues unabated and in 1975 97 per cent of headteachers in the Bullock survey said they still used phonics in the teaching of reading. In view of these facts a call to return to phonics rather odd.

I consider it to be the duty of all teachers responsible for reading (ie all teachers) to be conversant with at least the major reports and researches on reading and to be familiar with current models of the reading process.

GRAHAM WILKINSON
Deputy headteacher
Spring Grove School
Huddersfield

NATFHE united

Sir - I wish to register the strongest protest at Mark Jackson's mischievous attempt (TES, February 10) to portray the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education as divided in its response to the White Paper, "Training for Jobs". The second page contrasts sharply with the serious examination of the reaction of employers and colleges to the Government proposals in the same issue.

There is no division within NATFHE on the question of these ill-conceived plans for further education. In fact I can think of few initiatives which have evoked such a spontaneous, homogeneous response.

It is quite ridiculous to suggest that public statement denouncing the proposals is in conflict with expression of the view that NATFHE would expect to continue representing its members and the further education service in the event of the establishment of machinery to implement these proposals.

Prior to the establishment of the National Advisory Body for Local Authority Higher Education, NATFHE and others successfully resisted Government proposals to hive off of AFE and establish a DES-dominated UGC-type body to administer it. Had we failed in this fight, however, we should have demanded a place at that table.

CECIL H. ROBINSON
President, NATFHE

Mark Jackson writes: It is difficult to see how Mr Robinson can reconcile his claim that there is no division of opinion in his union over the Government's decision to switch FE funding with the statement by one of its prominent national officials that the Government appeared to have little alternative. Mr Robinson himself gave no hint of criticism of that part of the White Paper when he spoke to me, and nor had he done so when he discussed the matter in public with Mr David Young at a Royal Society of Arts meeting a few days earlier. Since all this, however, there has been a meeting of the union's national council at which the views of those who are denouncing the Government's plan prevailed.

MSC booty
Sir - The article by Mark Jackson and Diane Spencer on the reaction to the Education Secretary's decision to transfer more funds to the Manpower Services Commission from the local education authorities (TES, February 3) gives a fair indication, and a welcome one, of the anger felt by many in the further education service.

We have been irritated by the accusation that colleges have been inflexible concerning the Youth Training Scheme, but even angrier over the charges of not knowing what industry wants.

All the turmoil of the last decade in redesigning courses for the Technician Education Council and the Business Education Council - involving as it does considerable and accountable liaison with employers - appears to have been for nothing for those who should know better.

The liaison has gone on for a lot longer than the last decade, of course, and it may be that the relationship, like a good marriage, has its ups and downs. But to say that the solution lies in setting up a mistress, in the style in which she would obviously like to become accustomed, strains credulity.

ROY DANSON
Senior lecturer
Macclesfield College



Joanna Brown, one of the high achievers in the Portsmouth Polytechnic research project, receives some extra tuition from a psychology student.

Further handicap

Sir - As parents of a child with Down's Syndrome, we were delighted by the prominence given to the article (TES, February 3) about the project at the Portsmouth Polytechnic.

Our daughter, Abigail, is now 10, has a reading age of 4-plus, and has always been educated at a normal state primary school. In fact, she learned to read at home from the age of three, and was on book 3B of the "Ladybird" series before starting school.

It is indeed true that the potential of such children has been underestimated for years, and had we not both been teachers ourselves, we might well have given up our battle against the authorities to get her into mainstream education.

Moreover, how fair is it that it depends to a great extent on where you live as to whether your mentally handicapped child is acceptable in local schools? We thank God for headteachers who are prepared to "take the risk", and for some enlightened L.E.A.s.

How many primary and secondary schools in the country have, additionally, special classes where children like Abigail can learn happily alongside the other members of the community to which they belong?

Three cheers for Sue Buckley, and all other pioneers who are trying to educate the ignorant and the prejudiced in education and society.

N. F. D. E. M. SLUICKETT
Vestis House
8 Kings Road
Thame
Oxon

requirements of teachers and students.

The board's researches have also shown that there are many teachers with university qualifications in philosophy working in other school subject departments. In some schools, non-examinable courses in philosophical ideas are being taught to children from the age of 14. It is hoped that this new syllabus, which combines the study of important seminal texts with philosophical themes related to contemporary issues, will contribute to the re-introduction of this subject as a basic and necessary part of a good general education.

Copies of the syllabus, specimen papers and lists of recommended reading may be obtained from the board. HILDED G. GUNNINGHAM
Associated Examining Board
Wellington House
Aldershot, Hampshire

Logical decision

Sir - The Associated Examining Board's decision to go ahead with its A-level in philosophy, with the first examinations in 1985, is a small event of potentially great importance for the education of children and students aged 16 to 18.

This centre has taken a special interest in the topic and is planning a conference for teachers who wish to explore the implications of introducing philosophy into schools and colleges. We are interested in a number of

INQUIRIES: PHILOSOPHY



Philosophy A level

Sir - With reference to the recent correspondence in these columns (Raymond Winch, November 25) regarding the absence of a GCE examination in philosophy, I am now pleased to report that the Associated Examining Board's work over the last two years in developing a broadly based A-level syllabus in this subject has been successfully concluded. The Secondary Examinations Council recently approved this syllabus and the first examination will take place in June 1985 with a restricted entry but be offered to all registered AEB centres in June 1986.

The syllabus reflects the increasing interest in this subject at all levels of the educational world and outside it. Consultation with 350 of the board's centres and discussions with teachers of philosophy in higher, further and adult education, encouraged the board to respond to this interest and to design the kind of syllabus which will meet the

LETTERS

Striking a pastoral note

Misleading report

Sir - It was, perhaps, misleading to suggest that Fartown High School's ethnic minority pupils do not take part in extra curricular activities (TES, February 10). They do - and very successfully. The review took a specific subject comment from the HMI report and turned it into a general statement.

The review might have added: "The school provides an impressively wide range of indoor and outdoor extra-curricular activities"; "despite varied cultures the school achieves excellent personal relationships"; and "The school successfully creates an environment in which learning can take place". In all, it is better to read the entire report.

IFLOWE
Headmaster
Fartown High School
Huddersfield

TV recording

Sir - Although current recording arrangements are not ideal, there was a factual error in your article about off-air recording (TES, February 10), which may make some schools and colleges feel they are breaking the law when they are not.

When talking about the recording by teachers of existing BBC and ITV programmes in the context of Channel 4's licensing arrangement, you say that "only official schools television can legally be recorded". It is of course legal to record all programmes listed in the BBC Continuing Education Annual Programme, as well as the BBC Schools Annual Programme.

There is, however, an anomalous distinction: television programmes listed in the Schools Annual Programme can be kept and used for three years; those in the CE Annual Programme for only one year.

SHEILA INNES
Head of Continuing Education
BBC Television

Hard-up facts

Sir - I read with interest your article on February 10 relating to the probability that Liverpool City Council will go bankrupt.

What I would be the first to concede that as a council has gone bankrupt we can only hypothesize as to the effects of this action. I am nevertheless concerned that Mr Ferguson of the National Union of Teachers should be so misinformed about the financial situation facing the council. This is of particular concern as Mr Ferguson is also the secretary of the Joint Shop Stewards Committee and presumably is misinforming that organization as well as the NUT.

The simple fact is that if the council

declares an illegal budget for a considerable time next year teachers, and indeed all staff of the council, will not get paid.

Bad though this is, the long-term consequences are even greater. Already the Liverpool Polytechnic has been warned that its degree validating body is considering withdrawing recognition as the polytechnic cannot guarantee a continued education.

Mr Ferguson claims that a book-balancing budget would mean 500 compulsory redundancies. This is absolute nonsense. He claims that approximately £20m would have to be cut from the education budget. This is absolute nonsense.

RICHARD KEMP (Councillor)
(on behalf of the Liverpool City Council Liberal Group)

Plan's weakness

Sir - Now that objections to the plan for the re-organisation of Liverpool county secondary schools are being considered by the Department of Education and Science, it is time to draw attention to educational issues which have not reached the publicity they deserve.

The parents' association of Quarry Bank comprehensive school welcomes the efforts being made by Liverpool Education Authority to rationalize the secondary school provision in the city, but considers there are two serious flaws in the proposals:

1. The proposed size of school - six

forms of entry - is, in this city, too small to do justice to the pupils at either end of the ability range.

2. The decision to close (or reduce the intake of) schools which enjoy parental support, in favour of reviving those schools on which the parents have turned their backs.

The situation in the city is so serious that we hope a solution will soon be found which commands greater parental support than the present proposals.

MARY WATSON
16 Garth Drive
Allerton
Liverpool 18

For the record . . .

Sir - I was pleased to read "Spreading the Word" (TES, January 27), a feature on a project involving parents and teachers from seven schools in Macclesfield. The work is part of a growing national movement of school-centred curriculum development and deserves publicity. However, the interviewee's account of the project was somewhat misleading and in the interests of accuracy the record must be kept straight.

The author stated that I "would be pleased to continue this work in Macclesfield but found that only seven of the schools were interested and then only on their own terms". The facts are that I was asked by the schools to help develop the home-school working links; and that before the work began we agreed as a group that each

school should start from where it was at the time.

While this may at first sight seem relatively unimportant, it represents a particular client-centred view of external consultancy. In this model the perceived interests of the client are of paramount importance and work is designed and carried out through processes of contract making and negotiations.

CHRISTOPHER DAY
In-Service Unit
School of Education
Nottingham University

Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

Sounds similar

Sir - There is no more difference in sound quality between a choir of young girls and one of boys, than already exists between the idiosyncratic sounds of, say, the Vienna Boys' or the choristers of King's Chapel. Such differences largely depend on the singing techniques adopted by the conductor.

Young girls' choirs have almost as good a musical heritage, here and abroad, as their young male counterparts, as the music written by Vivaldi for the Pietà, Purcell for Josias Priest's Boarding School for Young Gentlewomen, and Holst for St Paul's, testifies. Certainly the girls' choirs of 7 to 14-year-olds I have trained here in the Welsh Marches have never had any hesitation in tackling four-part SSA pieces, such as those by Alessandro Scarlatti.

My husband and I entered our sons as choristers because choir schools provide the only opportunity in this country to illustrate the ancient Greek, and modern Hungarian, theory that music is the foundation of all education.

I have long been a champion of girls' choirs in cathedrals, and more women in organ lofts too, but it is not differences in singing tone nor possible harm to young voices that prevents it. What does so, is good old-fashioned 100 per cent copper-bottomed ecclesiastical male prejudice and preference (in every sense of the word), which has existed since AD 664 when the Synod of Whitby threw Celtic religious sexual co-equality into the North Sea.

Finally, I apologize if it was the quality of my son's handwriting that may have led you to misinterpret our surname and yet further compound the injury of his mis-attributed photograph.

MORWEN BYRAM-WIGFIELD
Brimfield Common
Shropshire



adolescent girls. Young boys are not welcome in such a choir and will not join it.

Then it becomes difficult to refuse to admit women, and soon you have a choir with a stable membership with no vacancies for either young boys or young girls. You can of course always start a junior choir. . . . Unless you have round you staff

Building up girls' choirs in the parishes

Sir - Ann Lytett is quite right when she says that girls' singing is just as acceptable in the worship of God as is the singing of boys. She is right, too, to refute any suggestion that early training might damage girls' voices more easily than boys' voices. But she is wrong to infer that Mr Peter Hannigan is trying to exclude girls from singing to the glory of God. Our choir schools have an inherited tradition which ought not to be prodded into precipitate change by a political climate of

feminism. In time I believe that choir schools, like other schools, will be coeducational, but the process will be evolutionary rather than revolutionary. As an interim measure, we should start building up girls' choirs at parish level, and give all children equal encouragement to sing in schools.

DAVID LOWE
Regional Director
Pueri Cantores Federation
of Great Britain



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Me and
my shadow

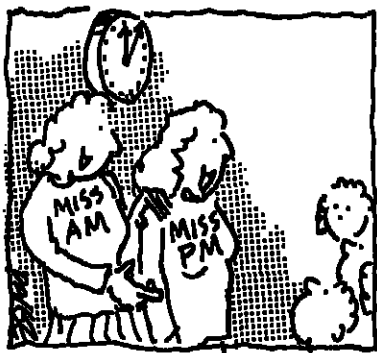
BETTY PEARSON

For the past two years, I have been sharing a class of 28 middle infants with another teacher. One of us teaches in the mornings, the other in the afternoons.

Fifteen years ago, when teachers were in short supply, I was asked to help as a part-time remedial teacher. As I had four young children myself, I could only manage a few hours per week. Since then, it has been impossible to work more than a half-day.

Two years ago, when remedial teachers became a luxury, I was redeployed and asked to share a class. I feel that this shared method of teaching works well and I would like to encourage other schools to follow our example.

I know several full-time teachers



who would prefer part-time employment for various reasons. Unemployment might well be eased.

So far, the only objections have come from parents worried that two teachers are confusing for six-year-olds. (Certainly my colleague and I are sometimes called by each other's names, but we don't object.) We find that the doubts that the parents may have are outweighed by the benefits to the children. For the following reasons: 1 At the beginning of the morning or afternoon each teacher is fresh and enthusiastic.

and choice in connexion with the annual 13-plus exercise. The process became known as Course Planning and it was frequently emphasized that while pupil preferences and parents' views were an integral part of the process, in the end it was the staff who put together each pupil's courses. The mechanics of the system remained as before except that each pupil now had to state an alternative preference in each main subject area while recognizing that a preference was not a choice.

The most obvious benefit was a significant reduction in the number of difficult interviews, for we were now free to concentrate on the real appropriateness of courses for individuals rather than trying to excuse a situation where assumed choice was not a factual reality. As far as I am aware, no parents or pupils objected to this removal of a supposed freedom - perhaps they too preferred an open ended and honest approach. It was the staff who had greatest difficulty, many of us suffered withdrawal symptoms as we conscientiously sought to avoid the use of the now pejorative "options" and "choice". The former is indeed a potent shorthand for a huge slice of the curriculum thinking that has dominated secondary schools for more than 20 years. It has served its purpose well and should now be laid to rest.

Mary Warnock hit the nail on the head when she wrote that "the crucial thing... is to devise a system within which people need not be locked for ever within their chosen subjects." By what developmental theory have we ascertained that 13-plus all, or indeed any, pupils should make choices between often disparate subjects which they must pursue for good or ill for two years? If they cannot maintain the required pace or simply lose interest what are the usual alternatives? Admit failure and move down to a lower group (if there is one), or change to a completely different subject having missed two or perhaps three terms of the course?

I would follow those who suggest that we must move towards the concept that I call relevant specialization;

Education is obviously a place for research, experimentation and innovation but we must consider in all our discussions the effect of the constant change on our customers - namely the pupils and students - and not become too involved simply in the result of our experiments to prove or disprove our hypotheses. These results have effects upon peoples' lives both present and future.

There has to be a middle road. One which encourages proven development but allows times for experimentation and meaningful assessment. There must also be enough flexibility to allow for modification and any system must convince all staff of its worth and not become the private preserve of its high priest and disciples.

Without this latter condition, the majority of lecturers will merely pay lip service to the aims and objectives while remaining for the most part unconverted, uncommitted and clinging to that which is familiar and, therefore, safe although not particularly relevant to today.

Harry Evans is principal of Newcastle College of Further Education and School of Art, Staffordshire.

2 It is probable that one of the two teachers will be mature and experienced, having brought up her own family, while the other will bring new ideas to the classroom.

3 As only one teacher is likely to be ill at once there is only half the disruption for the children when a "supply" is needed.

4 Each teacher can decide which subject is her forte. For example, one may take the PE, the other the music; or one may produce the Christmas play, while the other keeps the basic subjects going in the midst of Christmas preparations.

5 Parents receive more balanced views of their children on consultation evenings.

6 In our own case, with close cooperation, meeting for discussion most lunch times, the children's needs are always to the fore. We are at school together when necessary: for class outings, plays and rehearsals, visits from education experts, musicians, and consultation evenings.

7 There is less tension and more time for work preparation.

Betty Pearson teaches in Here.

Misguided
choice

MARTIN TAYLOR

"As long as people at school are free to choose, they will some of them choose badly," writes Mary Warnock (The TES, February 3) as she sets out an interesting introduction to the problem of wrong choices in education. Yet I would argue that it is in the very way that choice is offered in schools that so much can go wrong.

Even in the most sophisticated computer-assisted options system, there can be no certainty that every pupil will get the subjects he or she has chosen, even assuming that all their choices are educationally sound, simple restrictions of timetabling or staffing will see to that. Then, there is that benign denial of freedom known as "guided choice" which can so often mean "you give us your choices and we'll tell you whether they are sensible and/or possible".

I know that I am not alone in being concerned over what is standard practice in most secondary schools - the full-blown options system with its carefully organized meetings for parents and pupils, the booklets and options sheets, the advice and the persuasion, all done to give choice to the pupils in the vital matter of their future education.

Yet, through all this the sincerely meant offer of choice is at best misguided and at worst actually dishonest. How many colleagues have had to pacify angry pupils and parents when a supposed choice proves to be impossible? Of course, when I was in charge of such a system I always took care to put in the small print, but, if I am honest, this was to give the school a let-out when choice had to be denied.

In my present school, a mixed upper school on a city area, we made a first move towards greater honesty by forbidding the use of the words option

Education is obviously a place for research, experimentation and innovation but we must consider in all our discussions the effect of the constant change on our customers - namely the pupils and students - and not become too involved simply in the result of our experiments to prove or disprove our hypotheses. These results have effects upon peoples' lives both present and future.

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Harry Evans is principal of Newcastle College of Further Education and School of Art, Staffordshire.

relevant that is to the perceived needs and interests of each pupil in terms of content, style, duration and aim.

Within a properly developed common curriculum, blocked in year or half-year groups, with its seven or eight areas of experience, the pupils can follow a range of different courses. They will vary in length from short one-off modules to full two year programmes. Examination accreditation can be the result of a traditional two-year course or achieved by the building up of a series of separate though related credits.

Clearly, the possibilities in this area being opened up by such developments as the Oxford Certificate of Education Achievement and the new CGLI proposals make this type of approach to specialization even more attractive.

Thus, each student's course would be mapped out in stages as a pathway, going through some areas common to all pupils and through others which have excited their personal interest to fit an overall purpose such as a specific qualification. Course planning becomes a continuing process rather than a once-and-for-all decision, flexible rather than restrictive, determined more by individual interest and aptitude at the time than by mechanical constraint.

Where choices are honestly offered, they will not be between completely different subjects but within a coherent and coherent area of the curriculum, whether it be science and technology or expressive arts, and, to return to Mary Warnock's theme, neither will they be irrevocable for change will be more logical and sensible. Such a system has additional benefits for a school facing a falling roll for it can enhance the range of opportunities available rather than the school having the unenviable task of crossing yet another subject off the options sheet.

I believe that we should opt for relevant specialization while we still have the freedom of choice!

Martin Taylor is deputy head at Penn School, Oxford.

Further out
of touch

HARRY EVANS

Some teachers in further education are totally out of touch with reality, modern teaching techniques and recent industrial and commercial developments. I have met teachers who, either consciously or unconsciously, have never stopped teaching O.N.C. syllabus using chalk and a blackboard to a class of 16-year-old, white, male technicians each with three GCE O level certificates.

They appear to be unaware of new techniques, the aims of new syllabuses and the changing student population. But, more frighteningly, they are convinced that what they are doing is the correct way and that everything else is merely a temporary aberration. So, to be replaced by the situation as it used to be with workshops and laboratories full of well-motivated, unquenchable students.

At the other end of the teaching

Education is obviously a place for research, experimentation and innovation but we must consider in all our discussions the effect of the constant change on our customers - namely the pupils and students - and not become too involved simply in the result of our experiments to prove or disprove our hypotheses. These results have effects upon peoples' lives both present and future.

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Harry Evans is principal of Newcastle College of Further Education and School of Art, Staffordshire.

FEATURES

When I first entered teacher training in the mid-1960s, students were given courses of lectures on the so-called foundation disciplines of history, philosophy, psychology and sociology. They would make sense of it once out in school, it was argued. The medical equivalent would have been to give trainee surgeons a course of lectures on the history, philosophy and mechanics of surgery, and then turn them loose in the operating theatre, each twirling a scalpel, hoping the lectures would inform their incisions. Next of kin would have been less than rapturous.

Today, many courses of initial training, though still astonishingly few in-service courses, make the development of classroom teaching skills a much more central matter. The principal purpose of the DES-funded Teacher Education Project, based at the Universities of Nottingham, Leicester and Exeter, which I directed along with Dr Clive Sutton, was to help shift the balance of training towards greater stress on the nurture of classroom competence.

The project involved both research and development, and became one of the largest studies of teaching ever conducted. The research team observed and analysed more than 1,000 lessons, interviewed more than 200 experienced and novice teachers, and developed sets of teacher training materials which were extensively piloted and then published. We concentrated in particular on class management and control, the teaching of mixed-ability groups, language in the classroom, and the skills of questioning and explaining. I found it the most stimulating project I have ever been involved in; the analysis of human skill, whether in the classroom or elsewhere, holds immense fascination.

It soon became obvious to us that the appetite of experienced teachers for information about further training in teaching skills was just as voracious as that of newcomers. Early in the project, I wrote an article in the *Guardian* about our research into class management, describing the case studies of student teachers thought to be good or poor at handling their classes. Within two weeks we received over a thousand requests for the trial version of our first training booklet. Though it was intended for new teachers over half the requests came from experienced teachers, heads, deputies, teachers' centre wardens or professional tutors. Many told the same story: that their own or their colleagues' training had contained little on professional skills, and that

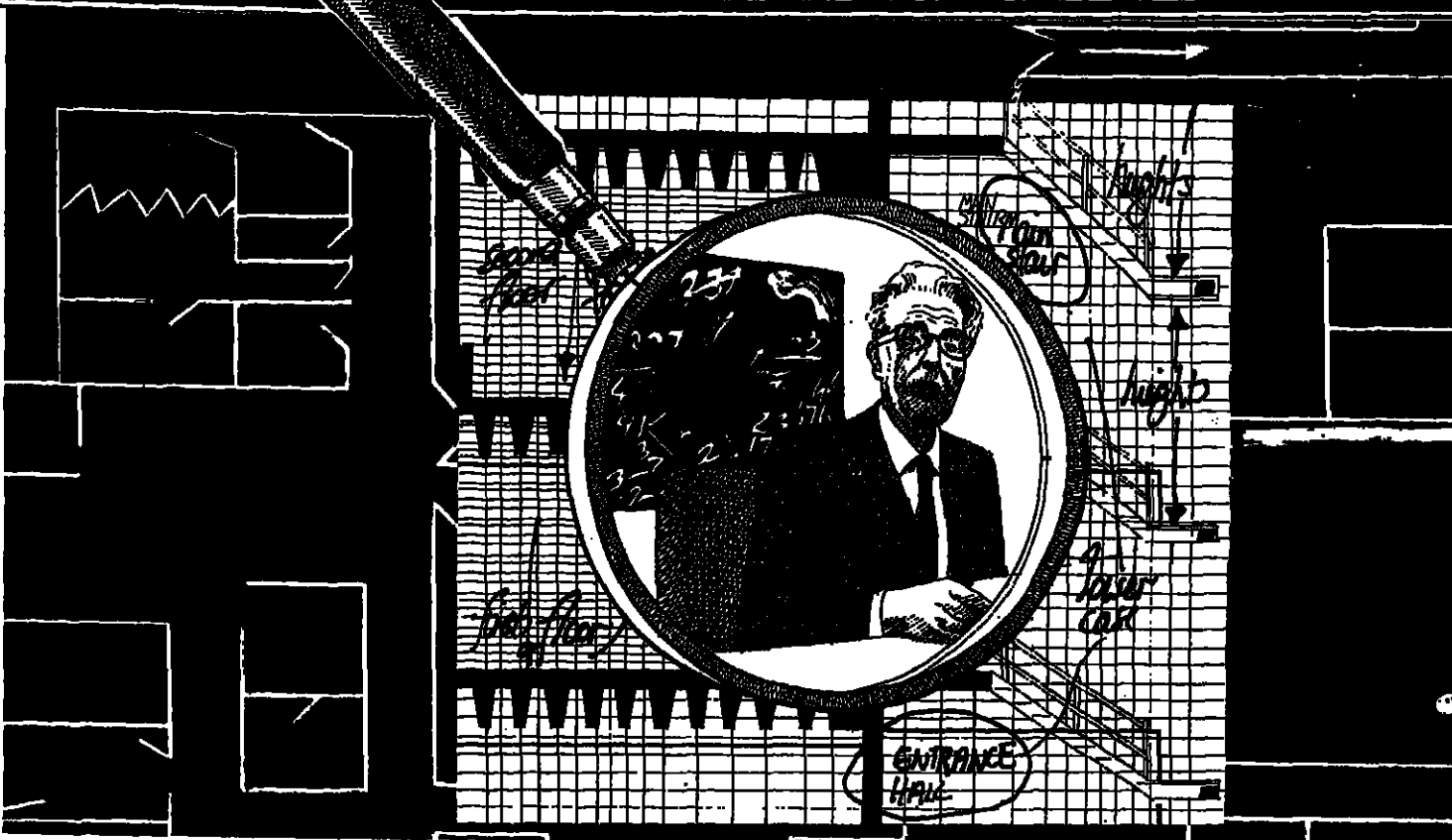
Children prefer teachers who are enthusiastic, know their stuff, can keep order and are fair and friendly without being over familiar

there was considerable demand from teachers, particularly those engaged in school-based in-service work, for suggestions about how they could learn to scrutinise and improve their own teaching skills. When the first set of training booklets, the FOCUS series, was published by Macmillan in 1981 and 1982 on such topics as class management, questioning, explaining, group work, teaching slow learners and bright pupils in mixed-ability classes and group work, more than 10,000 copies were sold within a year, and many of these were being used by experienced teachers.

One of the most interesting studies we undertook as part of our research into class management was an analysis of first encounters between teachers and their classes. There have been very few enquiries into those intimate days in early September when teachers meet their new classes for the first time, largely because most would regard it as a private affair, a crucial, delicate period during which, for better or worse, the agenda is going to be written for the rest of the school year. Supply teachers in particular become adept at managing first encounters because they have so many of them.

A chemistry graduate once arrived at his teaching practice school in January. Before commencing his own teaching he watched a third-year class's regular chemistry teacher take a double period of practical work. After a brief exposition delivered while seated on the front bench, one or two shared jokes and asides, the experienced chemistry teacher signalled the start of the practical phase with, "Right 3C, you know what to do, get the gear out and make a start." The class dispersed briskly to hidden cupboard shelves for various pieces of equipment, and an hour of earnest and purposeful experimental work ensued.

The following week the chemistry graduate took the class himself, and began by rolling on the bench, in imitation of the apparently effortless and casual manner he had witnessed



The classroom in focus

Ted Wragg recalls a thousand lessons in practical teaching skills

introduction he delivered an almost identical instruction to the one given by the experienced man the week before: with, "Right 3C, get the gear out and do the experiment." Within seconds pupils were elbowing their fellows out of the way, wrestling each other for bunsen burners, slamming cupboard doors. He spent most of the practical phase calling for less noise and reprimanding the many pupils who misbehaved.

This true story illustrates the problems facing student teachers who have not witnessed the massive communal effort mounted in many schools to establish rules and relationships in the very first lessons of the year. During the Teacher Education Project, we watched 313 of the earliest lessons of 41 experienced and novice teachers taking their new classes, using a mixture of structured observation of and interviews with each teacher and individual pupils, and the recording and analysis of critical events in the classroom.

Experienced teachers, by contrast with beginners, were very clear in their minds before the year began how they would conduct themselves. Most sought to establish some kind of dominant presence, were more brisk and businesslike than usual, used their eyes extensively both to scan the class and to engage individual pupils in eye contact. Many described how they tried to be larger than life, more pernickety about detail than normal, even to cultivate the crackpot in themselves. Although most were strict in their first lessons, many were conscious that this was not a style they wished to sustain, and, contrary to the popular advice not to smile until Xmas, several teachers introduced humour from their second lesson.

This experienced science teacher, who had conducted a formal and quite stern opening lesson, began his second session by tempering the first image with a skilful mixture of humour, self-deprecation and a reminder that he too was human and had a family.

"I've got a son your age, and so when my wife and I were invited out to dinner the other night, we teased up to see who would stay at home babysitting, and of course I lost. I decided to watch *Match of the Day* with my boy and the commentator began to use some very funny language - a square ball, the referee blew up, he left his foot behind (laughter). Well, we have some special language that we use to science that you will need to learn."

Whereas manufacturers of soap powder do not hesitate to solicit the views of the users of their product, relatively little educational research has used pupils' appraisals of teaching. Yet children often have sharp insights into their teachers' skills, and when Brian Tolley of Nottingham University interviewed a number of old people, some in their eighties and nineties, about their school days and recall vividly events which must have taken place at the beginning of this century. Such research as has been done into the pupil's view of teaching is remarkably consistent. Children prefer teachers who are enthusiastic, know their stuff, can keep order and are fair

and friendly without being over-familiar. Above all, however, they appreciate key professional skills like the ability to explain things clearly. In 1935, a researcher called Hollis polled 8,000 pupils about teaching skills, and the ability to explain was ranked first from a set of seven choices. Nearly 50 years later, we gave a set of 32 statements about teachers to a random sample of 200 children aged 12 to 16. They too ranked the ability to explain first, closely followed by a welcome for the use of pupils' Christian names, help for slow learners, and teachers who were good listeners. They hated in particular those who were bossy or not interested in them, and they were not at all keen on teachers who let them mark their own work or did something different if that was what the class wished.

In addition to substantial work on class management, we studied teachers' questions and explanations. Research into teachers' questions has shown that for every five questions asked, three involve the recall of information (What is the capital of France?), one is to do with class management (Have you remembered you exercise books?) and only one in five is what some people call "higher order" questions, that is those

It seems astonishing that we have been so reluctant to place our training effort where it really counts, on the development of classroom efficiency

provoking imaginative, speculative or evaluative thinking (What might life today be like if the Spanish Armada had won? Do you think people in cities are more or less fortunate than those who live in the country?).

We persuaded 36 experienced teachers to analyse their own questions, to report the actual wording of questions they asked to bright or slower learning pupils, to keep a record of sequences of questions, and to describe what advice they would give new trainees. A wide variety of question-asking strategies was revealed, some teachers preferring to begin with a simple closed question and gradually extend and lift the level of thinking required, others beginning with a much more open question and subsequently narrowing the field down to focus on more specific matters.

Another absorbing study we conducted was an analysis of videotapes of 27 science teachers explaining topics such as living energy, polluted streams and soil as an ecosystem to classes of 11- and 12-year-olds. Observers were asked to rate the competence of each teacher and the children were given tests to see how much they had learned, so that effective and ineffective explanations could be identified. Good explainers made greater use of concrete examples either given by the teacher or elicited from the pupils, were able to focus sharply on the key concepts, and varied the level of demand on the pupils according to

their ability. Poor explainers overwhelmed children with a confusing mass of concepts early in the lesson, and usually failed to summarize what had been learned at the end.

Altogether we carried out 23 research studies of teaching during the 4½ years of the project. These included a job analysis of the work of 531 experienced and trainee teachers which showed that the trainees were not likely to undertake either syllabus construction and pastoral care during their training, even though most of the probationers in the sample had to carry out these assignments as soon as they started teaching. We also studied teachers' use of groups, their teaching of quicker and slower learners in mixed ability classes, and the kind of classroom task they were setting their pupils.

It is no exaggeration to say that all of us in the Teacher Education Project team found the study of teachers' professional skills exhilarating. Some of the most brilliant practitioners were occasionally among the most reluctant to be watched or to talk about their teaching. They seemed to fear that we or their colleagues might think they were boasting. It is difficult to imagine Dr Christian Barnard keeping quiet about heart transplants in case his colleagues thought he was showing off.

Staff meetings rarely concern themselves with classroom skills. In-service courses almost never address directly the honing of teachers' professional competence, yet with an ageing teaching profession, and a forthcoming Burnham pay award likely to include merit payments for the best classroom practitioners, it seems astonishing that we have been so reluctant to place our training effort where it really counts, on the development of classroom proficiency.

Studies of teachers at work have shown they may engage in 1,000 exchanges, ask more than 300 questions, or give dozens of explanations in a single day. Teaching is such a busy job and each aspect of it is rehearsed so many millions of times in a professional career that deliberate analysis of process is vital to ensure change and an improvement in quality. Nearly all the teachers who analysed their own or a colleague's lessons, or tried out classroom-focused training materials, said it was among the most interesting assignments they had ever undertaken. One hopes the movement towards greater emphasis on the nurturing of professional skills continues to spread in initial training, and to make a much greater impact on in-service work.

The findings described in this article are published this week by Croom Helm in *Classroom Teaching Skills*, edited by E.C. Wragg.

The FOCUS series of training booklets on class management, questioning, explaining, teaching bright pupils and slow learners, handling classroom groups and mixed ability teaching is published by Macmillan who will also publish, later this year, a set of eight more on the teaching of maths, history, RE, modern languages, science, home economics, geography and English. Clive Sutton's book on language, *Communicating in the Classroom*, is published by Hodder and Stoughton.

FEATURES

"It is brilliant for your brains".
 "It helps you not to be impulsive - before I used to rush into things".
 "It helped me from being frightened of new things".
 "It made me think".
 "It helped me do my other lessons".

These are all children's reactions to instrumental enrichment - a radical curriculum development pioneered in Israel and recently introduced into Britain by the Schools Council and five education authorities (see *The TES*, May 27, 1983).

Its developer, Professor Reuven Feuerstein, claims it can dramatically improve children's intellectual performance through a series of abstract thinking exercises - literally helping retarded children to learn how to learn.

After a two years' trial, involving around 250 pupils, the Schools Council's evaluation report finds that, overall, children and teachers benefited from work based on IE exercises. Six authorities have been impressed enough with the results to commit themselves to continuing with the programme, and at least ten others are thought to be interested.

The new Curriculum Development Council, under the chairmanship of Professor Roger Blin-Stoyle, has agreed to disseminate the findings of its predecessor and is considering further development work in this area in response to Sir Keith Joseph's call for more effort to develop reasoning skills across the curriculum.

But critics of the report are concerned at the lack of scientific evaluation of the use of this method in Britain, and at the way education authorities are rushing headlong into buying this expensive curriculum package marketed by an American company.

The comments of the children are anecdotal evidence, at least, that some of the aims of instrumental enrichment are being reached. Feuerstein believes backward children lack important mental capacities such as the ability to make comparisons, to link cause and effect or to apply previous experiences to novel situations. Normal cognitive development is disrupted, he says, by the lack of adequate mediated learning experiences through which others - usually the child's family - help a child to structure his or her perceptions of the world and develop the powers of intellectual generalisation. Without these a systematic approach to problem-solving cannot be sustained and children are unable to learn how to apply knowledge, gleaned in one context, to another.

The IE exercises, or instruments as they are called, used in the Schools Council project were designed therefore to improve children's ability to think logically, to make comparisons, to understand orientation in space and to develop their analytical skills and perceptions. These exercises require children to analyse and interpret a series of pictures with a moral to them, to compare cartoon caricatures of personalities with real photographs to see what the caricatures were trying to say, or to follow and give exact directions for completing a geometric diagram.

The Schools Council report shows that of the 217 pupils that handed in questionnaires, two-thirds found the work interesting and useful. Half considered it helped them with their work, although the report points out that children might not necessarily be aware of their own progress in other subjects. It also suggests that teachers might still be learning how to "bridge" between IE and other subjects.

Marked regional differences in pupils' reactions suggested that the enthusiasm of teachers was an important factor in how children received IE. In Sheffield, where the local authority was "very committed" to the method, a greater number of children found the work was interesting and that it helped with other school work. But in Coventry, where teachers "retained a greater degree of detachment" the figures were lower on both counts.

Virtually all teachers found it a useful classroom tool; most felt it had encouraged their pupils to reflect and gain new insights, and still more indicated that it had stimulated classroom discussion.

However, less than half were sure that other subjects benefited. Among the improvements the teachers believed had occurred were better vocabulary and thinking skills, greater motivation as well as improved behaviour. Improved confidence and inter-group cooperation were less evident.

Chris Portal, a lecturer at the Manchester University Department of Education, acted as one of the five regional evaluators. He finds: "There is virtual unanimity that the structured and progressive nature of IE has been helpful to many pupils in reducing impulsivity, developing analytical powers and improving behaviour and responsibility".

In Manchester, as in Coventry, there was



It makes you THINK

In response to Sir Keith Joseph's call for 'reasoning skills' to be taught, the new Curriculum Development Council is promoting a method of increasing children's powers of thought, in spite of doubts about the way it has been introduced in this country, Howard Sharron reports.

however, no difference in IQ scores before and after the instruction programme. On its own this might not be particularly significant: it is not the only measure of a teaching method's effectiveness and might not even be the most appropriate, especially as Feuerstein's whole *oeuvre* disputes the validity of IQ tests or the existence of a fixed measureable intelligence.

But the absence of any other objective measurements or the establishment of proper control groups to compare IE groups with, was a serious cause of complaint when the Schools Council called together teachers, administrators and educational psychologists to discuss their report at a recent conference in Oxford.

Dr Michael Shoyer, a researcher at Chelsea College, who has been investigating IE independently, pointed out that the absence of scientific testing of IE was in stark contrast to Feuerstein's own approach. Feuerstein used the most elaborate tests in addition to his Learning Potential Assessment Device which measures a child's ability to learn by repeated test, teach and retest routine.

Chris Portal, despite being very positive about IE and even recommending it as a possible core subject for lower secondary or middle school curricula, urged caution because of the "Hawthorne" or "halo" effect; the tendency for any novel scheme to show apparent improvements to begin with.

The Schools Council, it was suggested, should have set up a control group of children and used criterion-referenced measurements to assess what a child could do in different disciplines before and after the IE programme.

Alma Craft of the Schools Council explained the difficulty of mounting anything more than a low-key monitoring project: the Council was only invited to assist in the evaluation after local authorities had already become interested in running their own projects; it only had £2,000 to spend and the Council was closed down in mid-stream cutting the whole scheme short.

The American company marketing IE at £12 a child, Curriculum Development Associates, also seems to have lobbied quite heavily for a rolling programme of "action research".

Frances Link, the company's chief associate dealing with the British connection, says that



Professor Reuven Feuerstein and IE in use at Priory Park school, London.

was pointless doing basic research on IE when that had already been done in Israel and the United States. She also maintains that control groups are impossible to construct because there are so many variables, and that conventional standardized tests are unable to measure the intellectual developments produced by IE.

But the debate about the evaluation of IE involves more than concern about the unusual phenomenon in Britain of private curriculum development companies selling their wares.

Doubts have also been raised about the way a method, developed in clinical practice in Israel, is being introduced into the classroom. The individual assessments of children using the Learning Potential Assessment Device was, for example, a crucial part of Feuerstein's practice in Israel as was the involvement of the child's immediate family. Both are

The 1964 Education Act made it possible for local authorities to reorganize their school systems with ages of transfer more suited to their needs. Eight or nine and twelve and thirteen emerged as the most popular contenders for the new breaks in schooling. As a consequence three new schools emerged - first, middle and upper.

In 1968 the first children entered the new schools and today, 16 years later, approximately 22 per cent of English 11-year-olds in maintained schools attend middle or first schools. It is perhaps unfortunate that the new title of "middle" school has concentrated public attention upon them and diverted it from the system of which they are part.

One might have expected a new development on such a large scale to attract the attention of large scale research projects. Only to a limited extent has this been true. The enterprising Middle Schools Research Group has supported a great deal of research which has generally been small-scale. It has also published a reader and expects to produce a second. Taylor and Garson's survey of middle schools was undertaken in 1978/79 and published in 1982. But very little research of a substantial nature has been undertaken on first and upper schools.

It was therefore generally regarded as good news that HM Inspectorate proposed in 1977 to attempt systematically to survey these new schools. A first school survey was completed in 1979, a 9 to 13 middle school survey in 1980 and an 8 to 12 middle school survey in 1981. Incredibly, and without explanation, they decided not to look at the new upper schools, thus invalidating any attempt to look at the new system as a whole but enabling critics to pick off parts of the system one at a time. Their publication dates have aided this process. The illustrative survey of first schools came out in 1982, the 9 to 13 middle school report very late in 1983 and we still await their comments on the 8 to 12 schools.

Why have these reports taken so long to emerge? There are no explanations in the reports themselves and some sources have suggested that the authors could not agree upon their conclusions. The 9 to 13 survey is reported to have gone through 26 drafts. In consequence, the evidence, conclusions and recommendations are well out of date. Most local authorities have taken, or are taking, action to remedy problems described without the benefits of comments which would have been useful two or three years ago.

None of the foregoing inspires confidence in the audiences for whom these illustrative surveys are presumably intended - teachers in first, middle and upper schools and administrators responsible for them. What of the content of these reports?

The methods of conducting each survey are described briefly. Essentially each school was visited for one or two weeks by a flurry of inspectors described in the 9 to 13 report as "with particular knowledge of middle schools and experience of inspecting the 9 to 13 age range, as well as specialists in subject areas". We know from reports from the schools inspected, that the specialism in subject areas was a significant factor. We know from the 9 to 13 report that 10 to 13 inspectors took part in each inspection, but, in accordance with HMI traditions of anonymity we do not know who they were or their particular interests.

The reports also follow another tradition of HMI writing in ignoring all other works recently published on these schools whilst assiduously commending the DES publications whenever a reference is even marginally apposite.

The first school report claims to be different from the earlier HMI report on primary education as it was "designed to include more descriptions of children's work and... makes less use of statistics". The 9 to 13 middle school report describes itself as providing "a snapshot" of the life and work of 48 9 to 13 middle schools during a particular period. Unlike its companion it is backed up by a mass of statistics. Unfortunately, the anonymous authors have chosen to publish only some of the details of how they collected their information and the conclusions they have come to about it. The raw data are presumably locked away in Elizabeth House. The conclusions are unchallengeable.

The main body of each report is a description and report on the data collected in the surveys. It is characterized by a level of confident studied vagueness which would not pass muster in an undergraduate essay. It dangles the teachers by faint praise and, leaving them defenceless, is being unable to challenge the conclusions, opens the field for critics of these new and vulnerable schools to use these reports as a rich source of ammunition, backed, apparently, by the status of Her Majesty's Inspectorate.

Thus we are told in chapter two of the 9 to 13 survey, "A few schools achieved good standards in almost all parts of the curriculum and a further third achieved generally satisfactory

FEATURES



Too little, too late

Graham Williamson finds much to criticize in recent HMI reports on first and middle schools

judged to be fairly satisfactory, though within a wide range, where there were good levels of performance in some subjects and where work was less satisfactory in a number of others. In a small number of schools performance was considered less than adequate in most parts of the curriculum, often because the curriculum was too narrowly based and lacked extension".

This is doubtless a summary of a great deal of careful judgment based upon experienced observation, but nowhere can we check it. What exactly do they mean by generally satisfactory or fairly satisfactory? Teachers have rightly been criticized for using these imprecise terms in reports upon children. They can fairly criticize their inspectors for being equally vague about them. One can also indulge in some fascinating statistical analyses with this paragraph. What exactly is one-third plus two-fifths plus a few? By my calculations it suggests that almost 80 per cent of our 9 to 13 schools are fairly satisfactory or better. That sounds pretty fair to me!

Both reports comment briefly upon the social organization of the schools, the behaviour of children and the relationships between teachers and children. The first school report indicates "that personal relations in first schools are very likely to be good". The 9 to 13 middle school report comments: "In almost all the schools visited, children's behaviour was judged to be good or very good. The general picture which

emerged from the survey was of relaxed and orderly communities in which teachers were friendly and consistent in their dealings with pupils and where children responded with friendliness and respect towards their fellow pupils, members of staff and other adults". Both reports go on to describe the breadth of activities in and out of school which help to foster these high standards.

These are quite remarkable achievements and major contributions to the children's social education and yet the first school survey devotes eight lines to them in six-and-a-half pages of its summary and conclusions and the middle school report ignores them altogether.

We are left in no doubt about where the inspectors' preoccupations lie and what their biases are. The curriculum and its organization is central and the curriculum is clearly viewed in terms of specialist subjects. Inevitably this is less obvious in the first school survey though, even there, the curriculum is discussed in terms of mathematics, English, geography, history and science.

Both reports call for more effective deployment of specialist teachers, an argument which echoes the recommendations of the earlier HMI report on primary schools. The middle school survey goes further and claims statistical evidence that standards of work in the schools were affected as follows:

	Per cent
By resources	39
By strength of head's influence	16
By number teaching single subject for more than half a week	15
By number who teach subject they were trained in	10
By size of school	9

Figures such as these have a fine way of looking impressive but, in the absence of the original data and clear knowledge of how such extraordinary measures as strength of the head's influence were calculated extreme scepticism seems the only reasonable response.

It would be remarkable if a team of inspectors, the majority of whom were subject specialists, did not note deficiencies in the teaching of their particular subjects when they were dealt with by teachers trained for other areas of work. Wise teachers will note such observations but they also have to weigh up in their own minds how much of the remarkable success of their schools in the pupils' social education is due to the stability and consistency of 80 many children having regular or lengthy contact with one teacher. There is a difficult decision about the balance of specialism against stability which heads have to make in the peculiar circumstances of their own schools. Neither of these reports would help a conscientious head to achieve the balance. The statistics in the 9 to 13 report are merely confusing.

Both reports conclude by mildly commending the efforts of the teachers in these schools in achieving standards not markedly different from those of comparable schools dealing with children of the same ages. The first school report is quite masterly in its determination to say nothing in particular and say it very well. "The survey does not offer support for the argument that first schools should revert to infant or junior with infant schools; nor does it lead to the view that their number should be increased."

The middle school survey similarly found: "The middle schools reported on in this survey revealed many of the same strengths and weaknesses found in inspections of primary and secondary schools."

The authors then go on to point out that "when middle schools were established in the 1960s the choice of 9 to 13 middle schools was based on a number of assumptions about stability in educational provision and demand that have not been borne out with the passage of time". This is fair comment as is the very brief explanation of how small middle schools can be disproportionately expensive if they are to maintain an adequate breadth of curriculum.

The middle school report finishes ominously on an economic low note: "Some of the practical difficulties facing 9 to 13 middle schools have been revealed in this survey and, in the present circumstances, carrying the relatively high costs of middle schools sharply decreasing in size will have consequences elsewhere in the system. Moreover, the findings about relationships between size of school, subject teaching and higher standards of work, raise the questions about the provision of effective and efficient education for 9 to 13 year olds that go beyond the particular issue of middle schools themselves."

This is an unfair and misleading end to a report that reveals much that is good. The findings referred to are extremely dubious, the best verdict one could expect them to obtain in a properly conducted academic judgment would be unimproved.

Neither of these exploratory surveys contributes much of value to the current debate on the future of first-middle-upper school systems. They could have been of value if an upper school survey had been undertaken concurrently, if they had been published earlier - if necessary "warts and all" - as contributions to the debate and if their authors had been less secretive with their figures.

As it is, local authorities through their officers, their advisers and their teachers have been left to make many of the hard decisions and solve many of the difficult problems alluded to briefly and belatedly in these reports. Many are solving the problems by school closures, amalgamations, astute use of staffing resources, re-training and a host of other tactics.

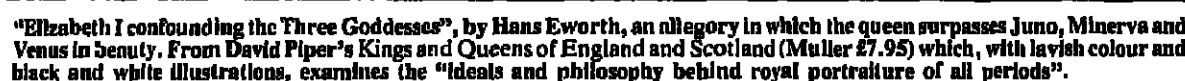
The HMI could learn a lot from observing what education officers and teachers are doing to solve their problems in these schools. The officers and teachers have little to learn from their reports.

The Middle Schools Research Group reader (middle schools: origins, ideology and practice (Harper and Row 1980). was edited by A. Hargreaves and L. Tickle. Schooling in the middle years by M. Taylor and Y. Garson published by Trenham Books (1982). The HMI surveys referred to are: Education 5 to 9: An Illustrative Survey of 80 First Schools in England HMSO 1982 and 9-13 Middle Schools: An Illustrative Survey HMSO 1983.

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Each report is characterised by a level of studied vagueness which would not pass muster in an undergraduate essay

BOOKS



Tom Corfe

omissions. Given Manguel's whole-life definition of his ground, it's more telling to mention some of the unexpected inclusions. More than half the stories were written in English (of Scots, Irish and American dialects in English); add a dozen or so Spanish-Americans and the book presents a clear map of the Anglophile literary history written by Borges. His admiration for Stevenson, Beerboom, par of James, of Forster, of Graham Greene, of Lawrence, of Walter de Maria (the morally earnest parts) is reflected here.

Manguel constantly underlines the conviction that the fantastic is an adult, modern and literary phenomenon; yet he's careful not to equate modernity with contemporaneity; one of the drawbacks of Ann Swinfen's study is its arbitrary sterling date, surely demanded by PhD panel rather than by the dynamism of the subject.

The great shibboleth is the fabulist/orfantastic's treatment of children. *Dark Water*, they are almost always near-adult rather than credulous innocents. Even the most religious input, the usual wary Catholic plug in morality. Even given such mine of the fantastic as Nathan

The poems possibly provide the highlights of this anthology and one

Chalm Berman

any study of Milton is to have substance.

Flanck (Hudson) and *Little Hippo* (£1.25) added to the ear stories about this most engaging bger child and her growing little sis and there is a feast of Tony Ross addicts of this young reader's Ge Scarfe, some in Pocket Bears and under the Sparrow imprint (Nau Nigel, £1.60), a warning against struictive mishearing; Ross's fierce graphically presents the horror getting a golden nose instead golden rose.

Animal Farm is excellently introduced by Robert Wilson, who presides over the book's

is a welcome complement to the fast slog of practical gardening.

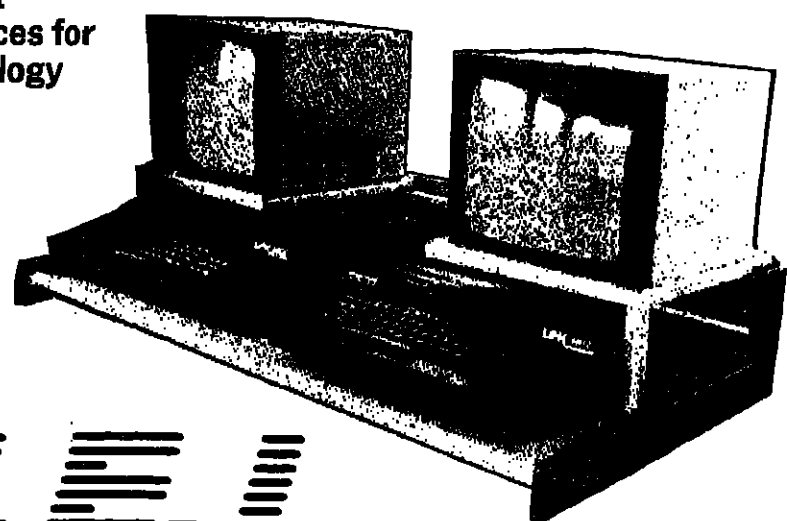
The Child
Church of England

The Children's Society.
Church of England Children's Society

Rachel Blak

RESOURCES

Paul McGee looks at courses and resources for Information Technology in the Government's Technical and Vocational Education Initiative



RSA is hoping to validate and for which he and David Floud are producing a course which will be published by Harapp. The emphasis on the business use of computers makes this certificate particularly relevant to Business Studies courses.

Information Technology is an obvious link between many of the courses which will make up the vocational package for each pupil. For many pupils on TVEI courses, Computer Studies – a subset of Information Technology – will be a course in its own right and will be a large element of the IT course and will probably be the only examined component.

It is important that examinations in Computer Studies are not unduly influenced by outdated hardware and applications. This can be avoided if the emphasis is placed on the use of the computer as an information processing device rather than on its internal workings.

Pupils should learn the principles of Information Technology by studying computer applications in a wide variety of situations in the commercial, business and industrial world rather than by learning definitions and taking notes. Teachers often find it hard to teach applications because of lack of practical experience. Hopefully the TVEI teachers will be able to take part in work-experience programmes.

Present Computer Studies courses usually cover only part of this ambitious area although the National Criteria for Computer Studies at 16+ give far more scope than is often realized for making links with other curriculum areas. Since most TVEI pupils will take examinations which are being designed to meet those criteria, there is every reason to use them as a basis for an integrated approach to TVEI courses.

In last week's article Andrew Fluck explained the Certificate which the

Because, in the National Criteria, Information Processing includes data processing it can easily be integrated into Business Studies courses. Because it includes process control and control technology, it can easily be linked to Technology courses.

One way of linking IT and Business Studies is the approach adopted by 25 Hampshire schools under the direction of Ben Kelsey, the County Adviser for Business Studies. An integrated Business and Information Studies course will take double subject time and give double certification at both CSE and O level, the major aim of the course is to develop in pupils a knowledge of the business world together with the numerate, literate and interpersonal skills to enable the individual to work with others and make decisions in a business environment.

Croydon proposes a course linking the British Industrial Society course with the London University/LREB/EAEB 16+ examination in Computer Studies. The course will be taught in an integrated manner and opportunities will be taken to link the project work for the different examinations whenever possible. The 16+ examination has a case study paper which meshes well with the data processing part of Business Studies. The coursework emphasized using existing software as much as writing programs. This will enable candidates to concentrate on using the vast range of available commercial packages rather than struggling to produce their own programs for insignificant tasks.

Computers will also have an effect on the typing, wordprocessing and office practice elements of the course both in what is taught and in the use of technology in learning, eg learning typing skills by interacting with a computer program. Elementary keyboard skills are relevant to all pupils and even the most academic have much to gain from proficiency in wordprocessing.

Currently, about a third of the candidates for the London O level Computing Studies examination prepare their programme report on a wordprocessor as their example of the use of a package. The relevance to the commercial world, where the overall appearance of the finished product is more highly valued than in many schools, should be obvious. The availability of typing tutor programs will be important.

Pupils following technology courses will probably be prepared for microelectronics-based industries which may see as essential for economic growth. The computer is central to much of this work through computer numerically controlled machine tools, computer aided graphics and design, and robotics and control technology. Croydon pupils will follow the 16+ Computer Studies course where the emphasis is on information systems, of which control systems are a part.

The National Criteria also stress that Computer Studies is concerned with pupils acquiring and applying the skills of problem solving in a computing context. These principles concern the analysis of a problem and the design, implementation, testing and documentation of a solution. The current London O level Computing Studies requires pupils to use a software package and to write a program, whereas the 16+ examination course will allow for a wide variety of projects and the notes for guidance make clear that projects which incorporate elements of control work

are appropriate.

The distinction between solving worthwhile problems by writing computer programs and using existing software is narrowing as the programming languages become more helpful and many of the information retrieval and financial packages become more sophisticated. Added to this is the emergence of truly portable program generators such as *The Last One*. This is a program which enables an intelligent non-specialist to write quite complex computer programs to solve problems for which the initial systems analysis has been done.

In planning IT courses it is important to think of the likely level of financial assistance which the Manpower Services Commission will make available. As far as the content goes, it should aim to give the pupils an appreciation of the power and limitations of the computer to perform calculations which would otherwise be unduly difficult or tedious.

The pupils should have practical experience of using computers and, in particular, this experience should be in realistic operations. It would be wrong if the only assessed use of computers were such that candidates could attempt only problems which would be better performed without using the computer. This points very clearly to the need for hardware and software to be considered together.

To get the full benefit of technological advance schools will need to look at an integrated approach to providing hardware. This in turn points towards some form of network, possibly supplemented by a small number of specialist devices for some aspects of control work or for a different experience of wordprocessing.

In last week's TES Roy Pickup outlined the computing needs of Technology courses and Andrew Fluck looked at the needs of Business Studies courses and recommended the Acorn machines. Two other networks which could be considered are the Research Machines Chess and Torchnet.

Both of these have the advantage that they can support the industry standard operating system GPM and both come with a free bundle of high quality standard software including database and wordprocessing packages. The RML network has more software directly related to IT in that the SIR library system, PASCAL and LOGO are provided. Torchnet is more obviously a business system and has a superior range of business software.

There are a reasonable number of teaching resources for computer applications. *Computers: Applications & Implications* by Weston and Roberts (Harapp) covers a wide range of applications. The book is good for giving a flavour of the variety of applications but is less satisfactory as preparation for examinations. *Computers and their Uses* by Weaver and McGee (Arnold) is much more biased towards a limited number of data processing applications. The extensive exercises are meant to help prepare candidates for the case study papers in the London O and CSE examinations.

The logical extension of this approach is shown by *Computers in the Health Service* (Harapp) which devotes the whole book to one application. Again the questions are comprehensive and most candidates will benefit from seeing such an integrated system, but less able pupils may be bored by so much emphasis on one topic. The BBC Radiovision series

sequence, *Computers in the Real World*, covers four applications and gives some supporting material. There are numerous videos, including those from MEP, but most do not have sufficient additional teaching material. They are often useful if used selectively to provide motivation and an insight for the pupils. Most are too long and the teacher needs to have mastered the technology of the VCR to gain the maximum benefit.

Addison Wesley are producing a series of computer programs to simulate applications. MEP also funded the production of programs and related books by ICL-CES which simulate the organization of accounts for a newsagent's shop and controlling goods entering and leaving a warehouse. Most teachers seem to find the books more useful than the programs and there is something strange about simulating a computer activity on a computer. Acorn-CES also distribute programs to support the applications in their Computer Studies books 1 and 2.

Business Studies pupils who are not following a Computer Studies or Information Technology course may find *Simple Data Processing* by Chaudhry and Agley (Arnold) a useful introduction to business information technology. All teachers would probably find *Introducing Study Skills* by Irving (Arnold) a good account of the general information skills which TVEI courses, and eventually all other courses, will develop.

For courses beyond 16 the FEU is a valuable source of ideas. They have recently funded the development and preparation of a Computer Literacy course. The report of the project is now published and suggests that Computer Literacy is a basic skill which all teachers should be capable of teaching. The FEU also publishes booklets on study skills, the electronic office, the use of computers in design and the use of computer aided facilities.

There is already a great shortage of teachers suitably qualified to teach Computer Studies courses to CSE and O level. TVEI will put an increasing strain on this already hard-pressed group and i.e.s.s. will have to develop strategies for retraining suitable teachers. There are one-year training courses available at universities and polytechnics, many based on the syllabus developed by the Computer Education Group and published in their magazine, *Computer Education*, in February 1981.

The RSA provides two courses at present for their Teachers' Certificate. The first is in Computer Studies and the second in the Use of Computers in Education. Although both are of value to TVEI teachers the former will probably meet a more immediate need in that it prepares teachers to teach Computer Studies to O level. The courses take 150 hours and approximately seventy of them are available this year.

Useful Addresses:
Addison Wesley, 53 Bedford Square, London WC1
Edward Arnold, 43 Bedford Square, London WC1
Harapp, 19-23 Ludgate Hill, London EC4
Acorn-CES, The Hermitage, Bath Rd, Taplow, Slough, Berks SL6 6AR
RSA, John Adam Street, London WC2
City and Guilds Institute, 76 Portland Place, London W1
FEU, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1
Research Machines, PO Box 75, Oxford OX2 0BW
BBC Radiovision, Schools Order Service, 144 Brompton Road, London SE1
IT Unit, Davidson Centre, Davidson Road, Croydon CR0 6DD
Computer Education Group, Computer Centre, North Staffs Poly, Bleasdale Lane, Stafford ST18 6AD.

Paul McGee works for the London Borough of Croydon Information Technology Unit.

TVEI Residential Courses
Physical, Creative, Cultural and Social Activities are combined to provide a tailor made course to meet your requirements. Designed to encourage TRUE adventure and the ability to adapt to change.

CELM, LLANEGRYN, TYWYN, GWYNEDD.
Tel: 0654 710454.

MEDIA

Norman legend

VIDEO
The Norman Conquest
by H R Loyn
Sussex Tapes, Townsend, Poulshot, Devizes, Wilt. SN10 1SD.

1066 is not simply the best known date in the popular mind, it is probably still the most tirelessly taught set of events in primary and lower secondary schools. And not without reason; not only is the story exciting, but there is also a magnificent narrative work of art to use as a source. What occurred helped to bring England into the mainstream of Western European History. But is all this enough justification for providing yet another resource dealing with the topic?

The answer can only be discussed in terms of the potential audience. It is clear this tape is not aimed at the younger child, since the format is that of the television talk. H R Loyn, a leading early medieval historian, is both writer and presenter. It is his grasp of detail, his considered reflections and his overall perspective that gives the tape its essential value.

More than three quarters of the tape is taken up with a description of the events, concentrating on those that took place in 1066. Clear maps are used to illustrate the dual threat of Harold Godwinson and William of Normandy.

As always in this series, the presenter speaks from a site associated with the material. In this case we get three: Berkhamstead, site of the final battle of the English leaders; the site of the battle of Hastings; and the site of the battle of Brunanburh.

This tape is a useful aid for O or A level teaching. While being at too high a pitch for junior secondary classes, it is not an academic study of the complexities of continuity and discontinuity. It is a history of the events, which do have social implications, but largely ignores more sophisticated issues of cultural transformation.

However, questions of language, colonization, rural structure, aristocratic displacement and the separation of royalty from the rest of the nobility are all mentioned, though briefly.

It is a pity that the producers should have left themselves down with a minor technical fault: Professor Loyn is a competent speaker, reasonably compelling, but gusts of wind intermittently disturb our concentration at all three of the sites used. The Berkhamstead sequence is further upset by the rust of trains going past, and the screams of children.

James Bromwich

briefings

radio & tv

GOING TO WORK
(Monday 9.38, Fri 11.44, BBC2)
A new film about life and work in a small town, for 14 to 16-year-olds.

EVOLUTION
(Tuesday 10.43, ITV)
A three-part unit for A-level biology students looks at the evidence that evolution is still in progress.

THE FRENCH PROGRAMME
(Tuesday 11.38, ITV)
Stage 3 of Action-tide provides opportunities for 14 to 16-year-olds to improve their listening skills and practise oral exams.

INTRODUCING SCIENCE EXTRA: JUNIOR ELECTRONICS
(Tuesday 14.20, VHF4)
A series of nine to twelve-year-olds

TREFFPUNKT: DEUTSCHLAND
(Thursday 9.15, BBC2)
ENCOUNTER: GERMANY
(Thursday 9.33, BBC2)
Two parallel sets of German language and background resource materials.

WOMEN IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
(Thursday 10.15, VHF4)
This new series focuses on the changing situation of women. 'The Angel on the Hearth' assesses the role of women at the beginning of the century.

Continuing education and Open University

EDUCATION FOR ADULTS
(Saturday 8.05, BBC2)
This new OU course examines here the provision of educational facilities for older people.

USE YOUR HEAD
(Sunday 12.10, BBC1)
Aimed at those interested in improving their memory, reading skills and approach to problems. Also keeps teachers and professional people up-to-date with developments in learning.



GERMAN in action

Brian Hill on two German language series to record for the school video library

not broken up and presented as structured language functions. Some discarded film has been re-introduced, along with additional sequences and extended interviews. This is ingenious and works well.

The sound quality is, in general, better than that of *Partner* though, here again, some outside location shots suffer from a high level of ambient sound. It seems to be frustratingly difficult to achieve visual authenticity and variety alongside sounds that can be captured and re-worked in the classroom.

The course is accompanied by a short booklet available from CILT. This contains the transcripts, plus lists of key words and functions.

The broadcasting of two German television series, designed for much the same audience, within a few minutes of each other on the same day

calls into question again the degree of genuine consultation between ITV and BBC. There is considerable overlap between the two series in subject matter and handling. Why is it that such a scarce resource cannot be more carefully distributed? Few teachers will be able to record and use both series, so why could two separate series, each with its own clear-cut roles and objectives, not have been provided to make more sensible use of such a valuable but scarce resource?

The course is accompanied by a short booklet available from CILT. This contains the transcripts, plus lists of key words and functions.

The broadcasting of two German television series, designed for much the same audience, within a few minutes of each other on the same day

Partner notes, £1.50 from Schools Publications, Thames TV, 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9LL
Unter uns booklet, £1.25 from CILT, 20 Charlton House Terrace, London SW14 5AP.

Rural myth

Country Crisis?
Channel 4
Tuesdays 6.30 pm.

"The lid off the chocolate box" is the avowed intention of this archetypal Channel 4 series. As the opening titles roll, presenter Mervyn Longfoot steps in front of a thatched cottage to say "I'm just off to the village shop". After extolling its supposed virtues (open all hours, comprehensive stocks) the camera pulls away – ingeniously revealing that the cottage is only a picture in her hand. "A nice idea", she says, "but strictly for chocolate boxes. Nowadays that village store is far more likely to be a hypermarket set in the middle of nowhere".

This arresting use of the words "far" "nowhere" and "middle" does scant justice to the thousands of village shops still doing business in what, I regret to say, is only too frequently a Tesco-less countryside. Nor does the use of the term "middle of nowhere" appear complimentary to that self-same countryside, to whose preservation from all form of change this series sometimes appears to be devoted.

Far from lifting the lid off the chocolate box to reveal the reality of rural life in the 1980s, *Country Crisis* creates one or two myths of its own. True the countryside is changing – but so too are the towns; since when did evolution = crisis? Doubts are not dispelled by the supporting statistics. We are told that 10,000 miles of rural railway line were lost between 1956 and 1977 and that the further loss of 400 miles between 1977 and 1982 shows that this "disturbing trend continues today". The cuts are disturbing but that particular trend has been with us ever since 1931.

A graph, showing the percentage of settlements in different size categories served by delivery vans, provokes presenter Mervyn Longfoot to say: "As this graph shows, it's the bigger towns that have the best shops, on wheels as well". Except, of course, for library books. By this time the producer has cut from the graph to a close-up of a library book, presumably for the benefit of those viewers whose addition to the box requires such visual reinforcement. He would have been better advised to have lingered longer on the graph, since it shows clearly that both butchers' and grocers' delivery services were available to a higher percentage of the smallest settlements (0-249 people) than to those in the largest (1000-5000 people).

What is missing from the programmes has so far seen any real hint of the trade-off that exists between the many inconveniences and discomforts of rural life on the one hand, and the consolations and rewards on the other. Presumably this is to follow in some future programme – if only to justify the question mark in the title.

Phillip Sauvain



As part of its efforts to advance the study of television and its role in education, the British Film Institute has designated 1984 'The Year of Television'. TV84 will be presenting a wide range of events throughout the year at the National Film Theatre in London and its affiliated regional theatres.

One important and pressing issue is cable television. With 11 cable operators already holding licences, the nature of the programmes they will carry is a matter of urgent concern. At

a recent conference held by the Council for Educational Technology, doubt was expressed about the benefits of cable for education; while its potential was immense, did the operators really know what educationists required? A series of Tuesday lunchtime lectures at the NFT this month and next discusses the background and future of cable.

The new technologies will also be discussed at an International Television Studies Conference in July at the University of Leeds, the first major conference of its kind. But throughout the year British TV will be placed in an international context with programmes from France, Japan and the Soviet Union.

Gillian Macdonald

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You'd expect us to be a well-head of information on subjects only and geological. But we have dozens of other ways to stimulate keen minds.

We have over 100 films dealing with subjects ranging from combating river pollution to bronze age history from motor racing to microbes, from how to cope with gales in the North Sea to full wildlife.

All are available as 16mm colour prints (many also on VHS and D-VHS video cassettes) and several have accompanying notes. You can borrow them absolutely free. Our 1984 catalogue contains the full list, brief descriptions and the necessary order forms. Send for your copy today.

For Shell Film Library, 25 The Quadrant, Hendon, London NW4 4AT.
Please send me the 1984 Shell U.K. Film Catalogue.

Name _____
Address _____
Institution _____

Shell Film Library



STARTING MICROELECTRONICS this year?

Another 20,000 13/14 year old pupils spread throughout the UK will be using this new teaching package during 1984.

Further information from:
Middlesex Science & Technology Education Centre
Middlesex Polytechnic, Trent Park, Cockfosters Road, Barnet, Herts EN4 0PT
CONTROL MICROELECTRONICS
module for CSE, 'O', 'A' level CDT, Computer Studies, and Electronics will be available to schools in the summer of 1984. (706)

Classified Advertisements

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Nursery Education

Headships

SUNDERLAND
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
NORTH BRIDGES SCHOOL
Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

*FRINGE AREA LONDON ALLOWANCE £268 P.A. THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

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Generous relocation expenses in approved cases.

HEADSHIPS

SPELTORNE COUNTY FIRST SCHOOL, Ashford Common

Headteacher required from the commencement of the Autumn Term for this Group 5 First School for pupils aged 5-8 years. N.O.R. (January 1984) 211 plus Nursery unit for 20 pupils (a.m.) and 20 pupils (p.m.). Salary scale £11,457-£12,872 p.a.

CHARLWOOD COUNTY FIRST SCHOOL, Charlwood, Horley

Headteacher required from the commencement of the Autumn Term for this Group 2 First School for pupils aged 5-8 years. N.O.R. 43. Salary scale £9,504-£10,936 p.a.

Application forms and further details for both the above posts available from County Education Officer (T/P/262), County Hall, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT1 2D1.

Completed applications should be returned not later than 9th March 1984.

Other Appointments

BERKSHIRE

SLADDON NURSERY SCHOOL
Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

BOTSWANA

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

SHEFFIELD

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

OXFORDSHIRE

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

BRADFORD

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following posts:

NORTH BRIDGES INFANT SCHOOL

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

OXFORDSHIRE

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BRADFORD

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

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BRADFORD

CITY OF BRADFORD COUNCIL

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following posts:

NORTH BRIDGES INFANT SCHOOL

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

OXFORDSHIRE

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

London Borough of ENFIELD EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

HEADSHIP

CHESTERFIELD INFANT SCHOOL

Headship for Easter 1984 or as soon as possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school's nursery unit, which includes 100 places for 2-5 year olds.

Applications are invited for this headship which will fall vacant in September 1984.

London Allowance, 2945. Consideration given to candidates with removal/relocation costs, temporary housing and two homes allowance.

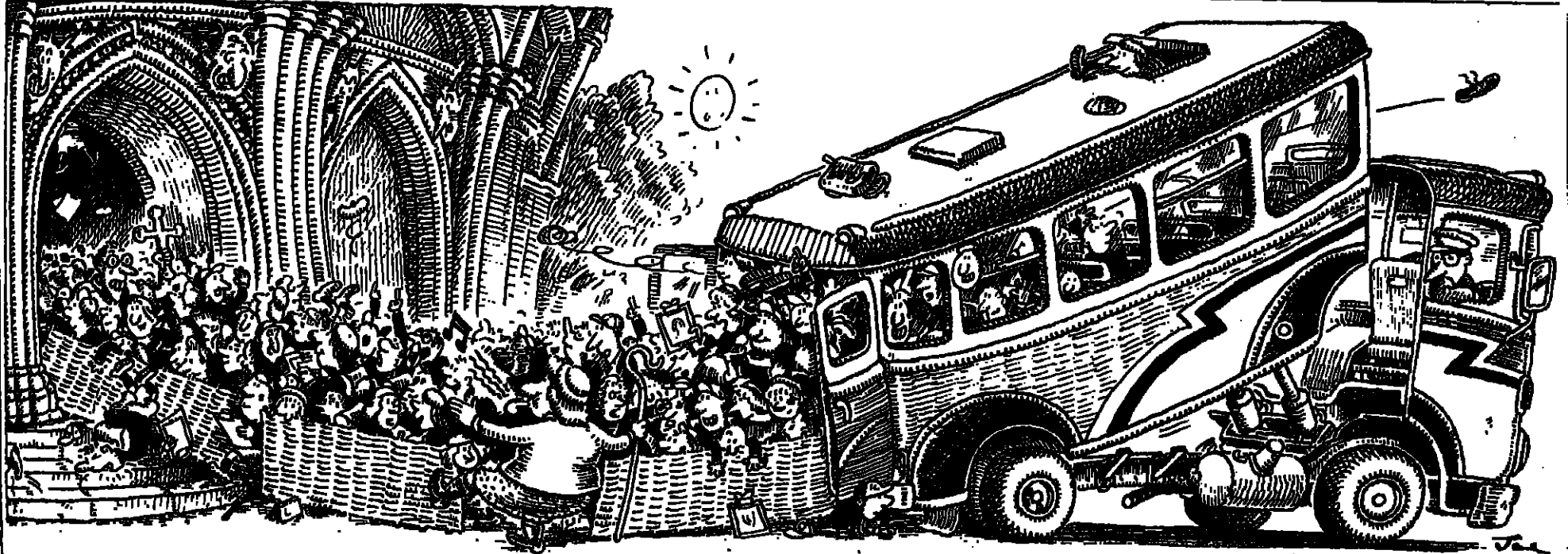
Application forms and further details (foolscap A4) obtainable from the Director of Education, P.O. Box 88, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield EN1 3XG. Closing date 9th March, 1984.

Completed applications should be returned not later than 9th March 1984.

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EXTRA SCHOOL VISITS



The South Bank show

Art, theatre, music and cinema

Report by Nick Baker

The South Bank complex is a super-market for culture. You can either drop in for a small purchase - a play, perhaps, or an exhibition, or if your classes are culture-hungry you can spend days there, stocking up on artistic "goodies". Of course, a taste for grey concrete is an advantage.

There is marginally less complicated than applying for an Albanian visa, but ultimately more rewarding. ILEA operates a system whereby tickets are sold to schools, and most outer London boroughs distribute tickets to schools at £2.50 or less. Contact your drama advisers for details.

Schools outside London can join, free of charge, the NT Schools' Association which operates a mailing list and a priority booking service. Tickets cost between £3 and £4. Also available for school groups of 30 and over are "ordinary" student concessions at £2.70 per ticket, but booking is more difficult so do not be misled by the apparent cheapness.

The NT Schools' Association also offers groups a concessionary rate of 50p per ticket for backstage tours of the building. You can eavesdrop on a rehearsal, visit the vast scenic workshops and technical areas, learn that Sir Laurence Olivier's favourite colour is purple (hence the colour of the 1,160 seats in the theatre named after him) and that the theatre stores thousands of costumes under Platform 1 of Waterloo Station. The tour is highly recommended, particularly if you can arrange to see a show on the same day.

The NT offers the whole of its repertoire to schools, but makes suitably warnings where appropriate. Inidentally, there are no "school shows" - performances set aside exclusively for school audiences, so your classes will always rub shoulders with a wide theatre-going audience.

"sweep the board" where special schemes are concerned. Under the Young Concertgoers Scheme, free to school groups of 12, a musician from a major orchestra will make an introductory visit to a school. Then, when the school group attends the subsequent concert, there will be a further meeting with the musician during the interval.

The GLC sponsor a special £2 follow-up ticket for students who attend concerts by themselves or with friends. There are generous discounts at all three venues for school groups of over 20, and schools can join the free mailing list service which distributes a monthly diary: *Music on the South Bank*.

You can hear chamber music, jazz, pop, carol concerts or watch ballet on the South Bank. There are also free guided tours of the Royal Festival Hall for school groups of 25 and over. Music venue foyers are open from 10 am, with gift and record shops, special exhibitions and probably the best range of catering on the South Bank.

The National Film Theatre, with its two small cinemas, doesn't offer much to schools. Except for special "Junior" screenings, programmes are limited to an audience of over 16. To qualify for group concessions (tickets for groups of 20 are reduced from £2.20 to £2.00) one of the group has to be a member, although the NFT box office may at its own discretion admit non-member parties for weekday matinees if sufficient warning is given.

If you feel your school group hasn't a great deal of stamina for self-improvement, why not try and arrange tickets for a recording of a television show at London Weekend Television's South Bank Studio? Free tickets are available for groups of over 20 (over 15 only) by writing to LWT, who will then send you a booking questionnaire, on which you can state a preference for chat show, quiz game, light entertainment or situation comedy.

Eventually (often after a long wait) LWT will come back with an offer of tickets. The wait may be worth it - you may find that after a day with Mozart, Modigliani and Marlowe, *Metal Mickey* is a welcome relief.

Choice ranges from a cafeteria to a more elegant wine bar/buffet and special arrangements can be made with the Royal Festival Hall's catering service for a group set-price menu.

The Hayward Gallery offers high quality visual arts exhibitions, changing three or four times a year. The next looks at Norman art and architecture between 1066 and 1200. Half-price tickets, usually £1 (not available weekends or Mondays) are available to all students and pupils, but it's advisable to book beforehand if you want to take a group of over 10. This will also ensure you get any introductory material on offer. Generally teachers with groups of 10 or more pupils are admitted free, but this rule is made flexible by the gallery superintendent in order (for obvious reasons) to boost teacher-pupil ratios.

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National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 9PX. Educational Information: 01-928 2033 ext 382 & 390. Schools Association: 01-928 2033 ext 319. Backstage Tours: 01-633 0880. Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 8XX. Schools' booking details and mailing list information: 01-928 3641. Catering management: 01-928 3246. Hayward Gallery, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XZ. Gallery superintendent: 01-928 8144 Ext 24. National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 8XT. Box office: 01-928 32323. London Weekend Television, Ticket unit, South Bank Television Centre, Upper Ground, London SE1 9LT. Transport: LT stations: Embankment, Waterloo. BR: Waterloo, Waterloo East. The National Theatre car park cannot accommodate minibuses. National Car Park's Coin Street park is closest.

Are you Planning a School Visit?

If you are then you will need inspiration and information on places to visit. This is where ABC's two historic publications prove invaluable. *Museums & Galleries* (£1.75) and *Historic Houses, Castles & Gardens* (£1.95) are packed with all the information necessary to make every trip a success - opening times, location, catering facilities, details of the collection, admission charges etc. The new, thoroughly updated 1984 editions are available from W.H. Smith, your local bookseller or direct from the publisher. Why not clip the coupon and order now?

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I enclose cheque for £..... Cheque no:

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School:

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Post to: ABC Historic Publications, FREEPOST, World Theatre Centre, Church Street, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU5 4BX

For more details dial 100 and ask for FREEPOST ABC TRAVEL GUIDES

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into the
parlour



Looms and mules

The London Toy and Model Museum,
23 Craven Hill, London W.2. (Con-
veniently near Paddington Station, the
Westway, Motoway and Queensway
Underground), telephone 01-262
7905. Open Tuesday-Saturday 10am
to 5.30pm (Sunday 11am to 5pm).
School groups: 35p per head; otherwise
adults £1.50, children 50p (under 5s
free).

leaders is in a refurbished mobile home which commands a fine view over the lower field, where the 4-berth ridge tents are set up. Campbeds and tents are provided, bedding, crockery and cutlery are not. There are no shops on the site, but telephoned orders of groceries will be delivered by a local cash-and-carry supermarket. The coach which collected the group is available for a further hire.

bright city lights, this offers the chance to clear the lungs of urban grime and explore some of the wildest and most beautiful scenery in the South West. Prices: South of Birmingham, £38 per child; North of Birmingham, £45 per child (based on 40 paying passengers with four free places for teachers). Further details from: Webbers Travel, The Garage, Blisland, Bodmin, Corn-

to years attending Kilmarnock Technical College in his own time to study arts such as brush dragging, the production of real distemper and the stencilling and painting of heraldic designs. His work has included the renovation of Culzean Castle and Brodie Castle in Morayshire along Falkland Palace and a string of stately homes whose owners prize his skills.





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Hestair Hope

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES GUIDE

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EQUIPMENT

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ACTIVITY
HOLIDAYS

MODEL
VILLAGES

INTEREST
CENTRES

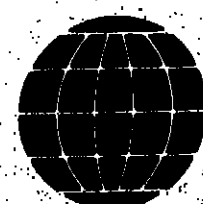


1984

If you're looking for somewhere to take your class on your annual school outing, look no further than the Hestair Hope Supplies Catalogue. Within the catalogue, our School Activities Guide contains a wealth of ideas for school visits, ranging from activity holidays to model villages. Our free reader enquiry service means that it won't cost you a penny to get full information on any of the centres featured. For your free copy of the Hestair Hope School Activity Guide, fill in the coupon below and return it now.

Please rush me a copy of your new 1984 catalogue.

Name _____
School _____ Address _____



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Facing the fundamentals

A school holiday with mentally handicapped youngsters presented particular problems to Bernard Emblem

Enough money was raised in a local pub this year to send 10 mentally handicapped children from our school on a week's holiday in Wales. A chance to spend seven days meeting real and challenging social situations seemed an ideal opportunity for our 14 to 16-year-olds to put skills practised in the classroom into use in the real world. What I hadn't realized was that I would learn as much as the children.

The children prepared for the holiday in their own way, with some far more aware than others of what would be happening. All knew they were going to the seaside with Sue (another teacher) and me, but only Michelle actually talked about it. We heard daily how much pocket money she'd saved, what new clothes she had, and how much she was looking forward to going.

Off to a rousing cheer on a dismal Saturday morning the only problem on the journey was when Farida lost her sandwiches, but we managed to fill her up with assorted non-meat bits from everyone else's.

On arrival at our Colwyn Bay hotel we were met by the manager, Frank, who greeted us warmly and helped us find our rooms. The boys spotted the bar on the way up, and were excited at the prospect of buying their own drinks. As they unpacked, Steven and Nigel argued over the relative merits of beer and lager. I assured Steven that Frank wouldn't serve them beer or lager.

I went over to see how Sue and the girls were settling in on the other side of the hotel. Things were not going well. Three of them had managed to lock themselves in their room. Their inability to follow direct instructions without the usual additional clues of gesture and facial expression was soon apparent. It took a full 10 minutes to explain that they should turn the Yale lock as well as the door handle, but they understood eventually.

Returning to the boys' rooms, I discovered that Nigel was locked out, and that John, completely misinterpreting the situation, had put his pyjamas on instead of unpacking his case. I got John back in his clothes, and learned from Frank where the master key was kept.

In schools like ours we are quite proud of the fact that we no longer drill. Instead school subjects such as the 3R's for their own sake, but concentrate on aspects of those subjects likely to be of value to the children when they leave school: the ability to recognize all the coins, to combine coins to pay for things they want to buy, to write their own names and addresses, to read useful signs, such as "Toilet".

On the holiday we quickly realised that far more fundamental problems would have to be solved before such skills could be put into practice. Attitudes to money were particularly interesting. I was really taken aback that, given £1 a day each to spend none

of the children were able to spread it through the day without considerable help.

Some were out-and-out spend-thrifts. Steve, for example, regarded 10p and 50p labels on fruit machines as instructions to be obeyed, and would have happily spent his money this way. Others, like Allison, well aware that they had plenty of money, were reluctant to spend any, even when they saw things they wanted to buy.

It was their inability to make a reasonable decision, deciding what would happen if they spent 20p, for example, which negated any mechanical expertise with the coins.

Some were undoubtedly eventually achieve limited financial independence, and devise their own way of dealing with the problem. A simple, but effective, technique sometimes adopted is to always offer much too much in a shop. You end up with vast amounts of change, but it does save embarrassment at the till. No need to know coin values with this approach.

The holiday was, as we'd hoped, full of delight, and incident... Michelle went on the big dipper by herself, and poor Nigel fell off a wall and broke his glasses. An ostrich plucked Julie's zoo guide clean out of her hands, but that night a theatre-full of pensioners sang "Happy Birthday" to her when we went to see a variety show. We were provided with a minibus, free of charge, for three days, and though we did have a breakdown, another motorist lent us tools to get the bus going again.

Everywhere we went, in fact, we were met with friendliness and interest. It would be nice to think that the children would be received in the same spirit if, as adults, they try to achieve some kind of independence. But it is far easier to relate to the mentally handicapped as young members of a school group, than as individual adults.

The holiday was full of lessons for both staff and children. I was forced to reconsider many of the assumptions I'd made about what would help these children integrate successfully into society. We tend in school, I realised, to concentrate on the mastery of certain skills - the ability to cross the road, for example - but do this too much in isolation. Teaching a child to use a pelican crossing is a waste of time unless you're sure he'll use it when you're not there.

Though we managed to avoid any embarrassing incidents, I also discovered that an awareness of social conventions - remembering to close the toilet door, not commenting on other's mistakes, using cutlery correctly - was more important than I'd realised.

We regarded the holiday as a great success, and are keen to repeat the venture next year. If we can find the money, but I, at least, regard it as at least as beneficial and educational for the staff as for the children.

Visits diary

"A Day of London Theatre", a behind-the-scenes look at putting on a play followed by a performance of *Clash of Kings*, takes place throughout March at the Westminster Theatre, London; £3.50 per head (suitable for secondary pupils), telephone 01-828 6391.

"Woodwork in London", from May 18 to August 31, is a free exhibition illustrating the pottery's development since 1759. Facades and interiors are being recreated in the company's London Showroom in Wigmore Street to show off many rare pieces. Contact Jean Brimble, 01-486 5181.

Festival until September. There is to be a special service and an exhibition mounted by local schools. The cathedral's education officer can always organize projects on site and lectures on the Saxon theme. 0962-66854.

July 3 to 5 are steamdays for schools at the Great Railway Centre when special facilities are being organized for groups, including steam-shed activities and a travelling post office demonstration. 0235-817200.

The English Tourist Board is celebrating "English Gardens" throughout the year highlighting the 2,000 gardens which can be visited. A guide to 500 of them is published next month, £1.75 from bookshops.

Churchill's Chartwell

It is not surprising that Churchill once said: "A day away from Chartwell is a day wasted". Nestling in the Weald of Kent, the house, with its panoramic views of woodland to the north and east and of Crowborough Beacon to the south, could be a million miles away from the bustle of central London and the cares of Downing Street. In fact, it is only three miles from the M25 and less than 25 miles from Hyde Park, Corner.

Bought by Churchill in 1922, the house had been uninhabited for 10 years and was so dilapidated that a local doctor remembered finding a previous occupant sitting up in bed with an open umbrella as the rain poured through the ceiling.

With characteristic enthusiasm and single-mindedness, Churchill set about achieving a long-term transformation, adding a wing and building much of the kitchen garden wall and the garden cottages himself, earning a bricklayer's union card in the process. In the inter-war years this is where his family was brought up, where much of his Nobel prize-winning writing was done and where much of the research took place for the prophetic warnings he issued whilst out of office about German rearmament.



Churchill was unable to visit Chartwell much during the war, and he decided to sell it after his election defeat in 1945. It was, however, bought for the National Trust by a group of his friends on the understanding that he should continue to live there. After his death in 1965, Lady Churchill and her daughter, Lady Soames, helped to recreate the Chartwell of the 1930s before it was opened to the public a year later.

Apart from giving a unique impression of the Churchills at home, Chartwell somehow manages to convey the impression that its celebrated owner still lives there. From the newspapers still set out each day in the drawing room to the painter's white coat still hanging over the easel amidst many of Churchill's paintings in his garden studio, one feels his influence everywhere.

Chartwell has an extensive bookstall which contains not only all the major works about Churchill but also his *Painting as a Pastime* and paperback editions of his historical writings. Although there is no children's guidebook as yet, a 10p leaflet and the 75p illustrated commemorative booklet are excellent project fodder, and Robin Feddon's guide "Churchill and Chartwell" is a good source for teachers to consult.

Pre-booked parties can be given guided tours on Tuesday mornings, and under the National Trust's corporate membership scheme a £30 card rate covers a teacher's preliminary visit and a party entry of up to 60 pupils here and at other Trust properties. It is well worth it.

Further information from the administrator, Mrs J Broome, Chartwell, Westerham, Kent TN16 1PS. Tel: Edenbridge 866368.

Nigel Richardson

London calling

UK Connection Limited (76 Deodar Road, SW15 2NJ, telephone 01-874 2663), in the words of the company's enterprising founders Tim Wakefield and Chris Grey, sets out "to crack the mystique of London's expense". London is certainly the most popular school-trip destination in Britain.

The sights, ceremonies, parks and shops, the sense of living history are irresistible draws. The great museums, galleries, theatres and concert halls repay experiencing not once but several times in any child's scholastic career.

Parliament in Hansard, on radio and soon television is fine but the atmosphere over Westminster itself is the real thing. There are too grand events which bring FE students in their thousands to Olympia, Wembley and Earls Court. The capital belongs to the nation and access should be widely affordable.

UK Connection handles the vast range of requirements our education services demand of London with notable efficiency and refreshing flexibility. The firm has rapidly made a good name for itself and is firmly established. And, as claimed, its prices really are sharp. It produces two brochures, one for schools, a second for colleges. "Moneysaver" packages enable groups which in the past could never consider a visit, to benefit from London.

The arrangements strike me as excellent value especially as often better accommodation is used than is normally reserved for educational parties. Coach travel is door-to-door with use of the vehicle in London plus a half-day guided sightseeing. For rail travellers, free London Explorer Ticket provides unlimited use of buses and Underground.

Lowest price for two night with a party of 50 by coach, including accompanying teachers to five free additional places, is £29 each from Manchester.

Dudley Wilson

EXTRA

Welcome to the Abbey

Just as pilgrims flocked to Westminster Abbey in the Middle Ages, tourists and school parties now come in their thousands every year. They get a warm welcome from the Dean and his vergers who are keen to emphasize that the Abbey has the unique privilege of being both a living church and a national shrine.

"The Abbey is part of the nation's heritage and it belongs to everyone," points out the Dean's Verger, David Dorey. "Indeed, unlike a parish church, we have no congregation of our own."

"We hope visitors sense that first and foremost we are a church. That is why we ask them to stand quietly for a brief prayer every hour. However, we also try to highlight the Abbey's enormously wide range of interesting features - its architecture, of course, its history and its unique cultural links through the poets and scientists' corners. For children, it also has a fairy-tale quality as the place for coronations."

An education service was introduced last year to provide better facilities for schools in the Abbey's comparatively small and busy confines - and indeed to encourage more to come.

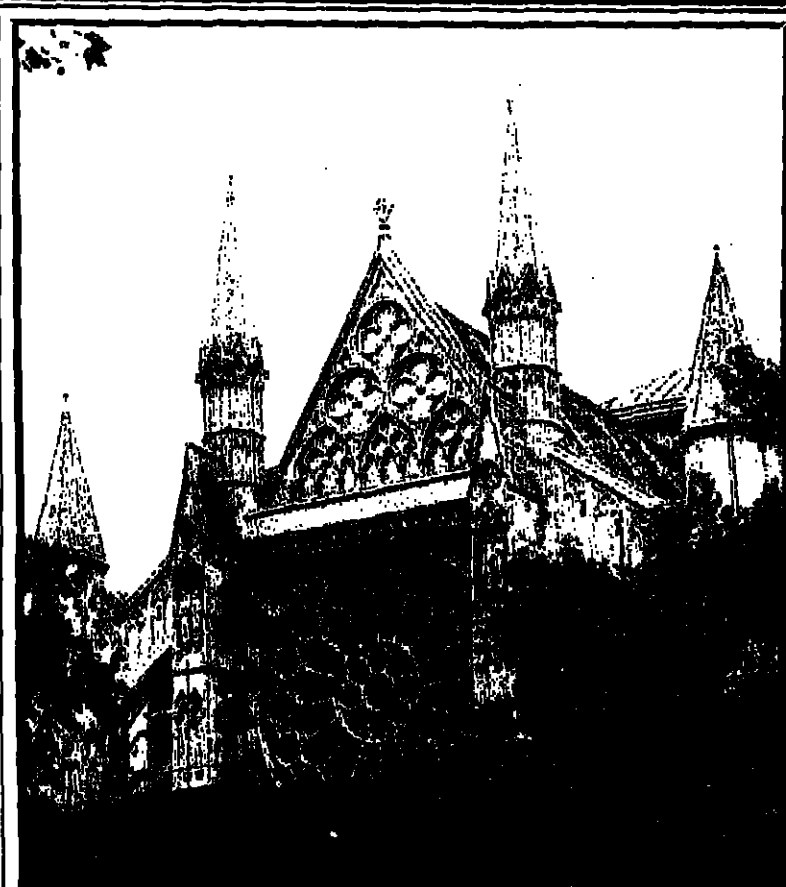
Although many schools still just turn up, there are advantages in making a formal booking. Firstly, unlike most other churches, the Abbey is closed to visitors as many as 70 times a year when special services are being held - anniversaries, memorials and thanksgivings. Obviously it is useful to be forewarned of these occasions, particularly since strict security precautions may be in effect over a wide area.

Secondly, there is a team of retired teachers to provide school parties with a short talk in the Nave before they look round and who also answer questions afterwards. They take care to centre their talk on the school's particular interests and to adapt it to the age of the children. In addition, background information, worksheets and resource lists are circulated to schools when they book.

Besides the Abbey itself, the Brass Rubbing Centre's 200 brasses provide a contrasting distraction for school parties. In groups of eight or more, the paper required to rub a small brass of an animal costs 50p each. The round Chapter House, along the East Walk of the Great Cloister can also be visited (free to schools if arranged in advance with the Dept of the Environment, Room 429, Thames House North, Millbank, London SW1).

Schools' booking forms are available from the Chapter Office, 20 Deans Yard, Westminster Abbey, London SW1 P3 PA. Tel: 01 222 5152; 30p per head, including admission to Royal Chapels. Because of the number of tourists, schools are advised not to arrive at 9.30am and to avoid July to September.

Gillian Thomas



The window above the north door of Westminster Abbey at the beginning of restoration.

PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE EXHIBITS

The very subject matter of most museums means that their exhibits have to remain tantalisingly out of reach.

Whilst adults can accept this, it can often be a source of frustration to children.

Happily, we have few such sacred cows at the London Transport Museum.

Which is one of the reasons why children and teachers alike find it one of the most absorbing and involving museums in the country.

Apart from being able to board many of the exhibits, you can actually operate bus, tram and tube train controls.

In addition, there are a host of other participatory exhibits.

Such as a working points and signals system, set up in a full size section of the tube tunnel. Together with many other working models and video displays.

We have an 80 seat lecture theatre

Where we differ from other museums.

incorporated within the museum building. And we can even arrange to have classes on top of a tram. If it all sounds like fun, it's meant to be.

But it's also a highly effective way of stimulating interest in how people's lives have been affected by the growth of transport systems in London from the earliest times to the present day.

To help teachers make the most of what we have to offer, we have prepared a special education pack.

It contains everything you need to organise a successful visit. There are teachers' notes, with a useful guide to preparation and follow-up.

There are activity

sheets with questions and answers.

Plus a full colour, fully illustrated museum guide.

There are even cardboard models for the children to cut out and colour.

No wonder, then, that in a recent survey, one local education authority found the London Transport Museum material to be the best available.

For more details of activity sheets and our complete Education Service, write or phone for details:

London Transport Museum, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 7BB. Tel: 01-379 6344.

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Come and see the London Dungeon for yourself.
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REFRESHMENTS. EASY PARKING. WORKSHEET

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The London Dungeon, 28-34 Tooley Street,
London, E1 4AB 0606



Ed-pak material is comprehensive, informative and, quite clearly fun. Children at Ilham Valley Primary School, Devon.

Straight from the chalkface

Susan Thomas on Ed-pak, a new concept in educational visits

Ed-pak - the educational visit with a difference - must be the best thing in teaching since chalk. What other operation offers an individually tailored itinerary, posh hotels, a fully-stocked and researched resource kit, visiting actors and a bottle of tonic wine? There is, of course, an explanation for the perceptive approach. As one happy head remarked: "You can smell the chalk dust as soon as you open the pack."

The company is the brainchild of an unlikely sounding pair - Chris Crisp and Clint Thrippleton - respectively ex-marketing manager and ex-headmaster. It grew out of Clint Thrippleton's 15 years at the primary and secondary chalkface, out of scores of educational visits and from the conviction that good resource material produced and tested by teachers should be available for wider consumption.

"The big difference," as Mary Smith of Ilham Valley Primary School explains, "is that on most journeys you do a bit of preparation first, a lot of work on location and follow it up afterwards. With Ed-pak you've got all this material - about a term's work across the syllabus - maths, music, craft, the lot - to do before you go. The journey itself is like the icing on the cake. And the one or two children who aren't going don't miss out on it - there is enough material for them to make up their own folders and do all the background work."

"Without trying to tell the teacher what to do," says Clint Thrippleton, "we provide enough material for a class to become York or Bath or wherever for a term."

Once booked a school gets its Ed-pak. Teachers are well advised to set aside a happy hour for the opening ceremony. The "York" box for 35 children contains several yards of display material, hundreds of worksheets and the children's folders and a comprehensive selection of resource books - hard and soft backed - at all levels, some specific to York; its history and development, others essential reading for anyone doing environmental studies.

There are also broadsheets, 3-D models to make, brasses to rub, board games to play, a set of teachers' notes, and much more. At the end of the journey a substantial part of the pack will find its way back into the school's library or resource centre.

The inter-disciplinary worksheets are attractively presented with plenty of illustration, not too much verbiage and the sort of prose that is guaranteed to hold a primary child's attention. Thus "The Story of Bath Spa - the Golden Age" fits onto the "Time Line" and

links to "Wash and Brush Up" by Eleanor Allen, which is, naturally, in the Ed-pak box.

"The streets are dunghills, slaughter houses and pigsties" 1631. Pepys writing in 1660 said, "It cannot be clean for so many bodies to be in the same water... I stayed above two hours in the water, home to bed and sweated for an hour."

"Even though the waters tasted foul they were taken three times a day." Follow that with the question about where wealthy Georgians found their false teeth, why they avoided washing and the harmful effects of ceruse, and the class is hooked.

There are remedial worksheets and separate projects for slow learners. "On the Bath/Cheddar journey for instance, the slow learners do the work on Woolkey Hole, the paper mill, Madame Tussauds store-rooms and the Edwardian fair ground collection."

"Then instead of always having a watered down version of everything, they know something the others don't." Thrippleton and Crisp pride themselves on catering for the individual. Small schools (10 to 25 pupils) can share transport without losing their independence. Ed-pak will arrange classroom facilities, play space, alternative visits and, though they feel it is not really economic, cheaper unresourced trips, which, nevertheless include worksheets and teachers notes.

"But schools who did the cheaper journey last year are finding the extra money for the complete Ed-pak this year. What they didn't realise at first was that because we buy at trade prices anything from wall charts to hardbacks to postcards becomes an incredibly good buy."

Having catered for the coach journey with a comprehensive 1-Spy game they are welcomed to the venue by a theatre group. "Last year in York we had two young players doing the Dick Turpin story. They played a number of different parts so convincingly that afterwards the kids rushed behind the screen to find the other actors." It is after this that the group gets its welcome packs - Ed-pak badge - cards to write home and sweets for the kids and card, pen, sweets, spiritin and pick-me-up for the adults.

There are other differences between Ed-pak and the conventional tour operators. "We decided that using good hotels was part of the educational content of the visit. Some of the parents have said: 'You can't take a party of kids to some posh place', but we find that they like the occasion - even in large numbers."

"One comprehensive from an Educational Priority Area decided to take

all its first years away as part of the business of improving staff-pupil relationships. They stayed at a really good hotel in Torbay - the kids loved it and, better still, the elderly visitors liked having the youngsters around."

"The first thing we look for is a proprietor who actually likes kids. Then we won't accept any double beds - something a lot of tour operators do to keep down costs - and we are very careful about safety. A teacher looks at things in quite a different way even from parents on that - one kid is safe with a balcony, six probably aren't."

The company has only existed for 16 months but already has around 300 schools on the book. "Mostly primaries," says Clint Thrippleton, "but we have been surprised by the interest from comprehensives and adults - we've had schools saying that some of the parents want to come too - great, that's what education is all about."

They say they have been very heartened by the encouragement of local advisers and teachers centres; much of the work on Dartmoor, for instance, was done with the guidance of Tom Grant, the man responsible for education on Dartmoor. There are now five independent agents - teachers strategically placed around the country who will expound the Ed-pak philosophy and demonstrate the goodies to interested parties.

"On the whole, though we've offered a promotional tape-slide pack, most schools prefer us to go up, meet the parents, do the slide show and explain in person." Their next port of call is the Hastings Teaching Centre.

There is no doubt that speaking a language helps. "And we're always receptive to new ideas - criticism and suggestions. And because the work cards are all produced on small runs it's easy enough to change things."

"Next year there are four itineraries - York; Bath and Cheddar; Torbay and Dartmoor and the new one - London."

People constantly ask Clint Thrippleton why he gave up teaching to enter the risky commercial world. But the longer he talks about the potential for curriculum development, improving language skills, the relevance of Cockcroft, and the APU's to school journeys, the more apparent it becomes that he never gave up teaching at all.

"What we've tried to do" he says "is to make available enough relevant information to allow the teacher to build up a good general picture of the visit without taking it so far that he overshoots on the teacher's special expertise and interests."

More information about Ed-pak from PO Box 42, Torquay, Devon TQ1 3JW. Tel (0803) 525672.

Salt of the earth

Cheshire is renowned for cheese and a grinning cat. Its salt deposits are less trumpeted. Salt, so crucial an element of life, has long and widely been used as a means of taxation. The story of salt in that part of Cheshire bounded by towns ending in "wich" makes a fascinating and pleasurable study. The trail links are through soft countryside and rich farming land past picturesque black and white buildings. Start at Nantwich or from Sandbach's stone crosses in the cobbled square.

I like Nantwich exceedingly from the Elizabethan Church's Mansion, now an excellent restaurant, to the grand church with a choir rich in misericords to finger and decipher. This was the first town in Cheshire to develop salt. The Romans exploited the stuff and Domesday mentions "salhouses". When the salt works closed in 1882, Snow Hill opened as a brine bath centre offering cures for gout, rheumatism, even insomnia. Nantwich Museum produces a neat summary of events sold with a sachet of salt to prove it.

In this region flashes or lakes, now used for sailing, caused by subsidence from brine pumping abound. "Beware Flooding" signs are common on country lanes but in urban terms it meant cruel devastation of homes and sagging struggles for compensation. It makes a good geographical and social study. Rock salt was discovered around Northwich. Cheshire's salt capital, in 1670. Eight miles worked last century. Today only one remains effective, the ICI owned Meadowbank

at Winsford. From here salt was exported as cattle lick. Current production, two and a quarter million tons, goes onto our icy roads. The mine cannot be visited.

The Lion Salt Works, a deliciously ramshackle place on the canal side, is open May to September for individuals and groups. It is Britain's only open pan salt works. School groups (best make an appointment) are charged 30p each child and will find a tea room, smithy, pump house with original steam engine and salt galore.

The Northwich Salt Museum (London Road) is not to be missed and indeed is exceptionally well signposted. Neil Wilmore is Schools Officer and entry costs are 20p a child. This is a well-nigh perfect piece of modern museum presentation recently completed which I enjoyed thoroughly and have revisited. The range of books, specially commissioned pamphlets, cards, presents and rock salt carvings is extensive. The museum tells the story of salt with maps, representations, models, bags of atmosphere and a 25-minute audio-visual show.

For the monuments to salt's Cheshire heyday, children need only to look around them in Northwich and surroundings. Here salt barons, Sir John Brunner, Herman Falk, Sir Joseph Verdin, ruled almost supreme. Schools should consider an extra dimension to their discovery of salt by boarding a canal longboat from Colliery Narrow Boat Company, Wincham Wharf, Northwich. School charges are £36 hire for two hours with up to 50 passengers. The tour also includes that leviathan of Victorian canal engineering the Anderton Lift.

For teachers prospecting the salt trail at weekends (the Salt Museum welcomes preliminary visits and is open Sundays) it all makes a rewarding little holiday. I can recommend food and accommodation at the Old Rectory Hotel, Holmes Chapel, an ideal base, where bargain breaks cost £37.50 half board.

Dudley Wilson



The Salt Museum, Northwich

Jam garden and Beatles maze

When Merseyside Development Corporation was chosen to stage Britain's first International Garden Festival this year, it could hardly have been confronted with a more daunting task. The site, 250 acres of reclaimed, derelict land beside the Mersey, had to be transformed in less than 18 months. For years the city had used it as a rubbish tip.

Now, planted with nearly 750,000 trees and shrubs, more than 30 theme gardens are taking shape. Its artificial ponds have been graded over and a futuristic-looking festival hall is nearing completion. Altogether, the huge £24m gamble looks as if it will pay off. Two million visitors are expected there between May 2 and October 14, school groups as well as gardening enthusiasts and families. Certainly they can count on variety. Besides the permanent gardens which are being planted by different countries in their characteristic style, there are to be special indoor floral displays which will change every two weeks.

Other attractions include a narrow gauge steam railway running between several stations round the site on a 2½-mile long line, (free), a lake with fountains and a water-fall and a continuous selection of indoor entertainment and activities in an amphitheatre overlooking the river - puppets, folk music and dancing.

Trodding round the muddy paths, recently, teams of workmen and diggers plying away, my imagination was sorely stretched to anticipate what the festival will be like by its opening in May!

Margaret Harrison

EXTRA

From a shout to the Shuttle in just over an hour?

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Fresh country air, improved facilities for animals and visitors and a special educational package for your pupils - all at Colchester Zoo.

We welcome school parties all year round, but particularly recommend a pre-Easter visit. Come before the summer visitors and your class will enjoy uninterrupted views of our species of animals, birds, reptiles and fish. They'll also be among the first to see our new reptile house, marine tank, paddock areas and many new cats.

Many of our attractions and walk ways are under cover. Coaches can park inside the gates and refreshment and picnic facilities are plentiful. Even so, our 40 acre grounds are not so vast that controlling a group becomes a nightmare.

Phone now for details of our special Spring term group rates. Colchester (0206) 331292. Maldon Road, Colchester, Essex



Getting through to the groundlings

Careful preparation is essential to make a school trip to the theatre worthwhile. John Sims offers his experience and advice.

Why do so many school trips to the theatre end as disasters? Or if not quite that, produce a series of tensions in the staff in charge and disappointment for the children?

A recent experience illustrates this. We had gone to a central London theatre to see a standard Eng Lit play, *The School for Scandal*. Behind our school party was another, and behind them, another.

I wasn't sure what they had come to the theatre for; it certainly wasn't to see the play. For the whole performance time in the rows behind us kept up a constant flow of jokes, loud chatter, eating and drinking, and at one point seemed to be playing tennis with screwed-up paper bags. Ten minutes before the play ended, one group left, banging their seats and talking loudly.

When I complained to teachers with one of the school groups at the interval, they bleated pathetically that there was nothing they could do to stop the disruption. The third group didn't seem to have any staff with them at all.

Perhaps a clue for this kind of anti-social behaviour among pupils is in the question asked by one girl, sitting immediately behind me, to her friend 30 seconds after the play began: "Whose that man, then?"

It was clear from this question, and other reactions later, that those in the group hadn't the faintest idea what was going on in the stage. No preliminary work had been done before seeing the play; they could not follow the plot or most of the unfamiliar language, and as a result quickly became bored.

Thus it's not surprising these pupils got so little from the experience of being in a theatre.

Clearly, theatres need to play a more active role in making theatre visits by school parties more useful. One of the most direct ways some attempt to do this is by organizing Play Days. They all follow much the same pattern: a morning of talks and demonstrations about costume, make-up, characters and so on; and then a performance of the play in the afternoon. The idea is basically sound, and for academic sixth-formers it can be a very illuminating experience. But most of the audience on many Play Days is not made up of academic sixth-formers. The audience usually consists of fourth and fifth-formers who are studying the play for an exam. In fact, the theatre deliberately selects the plays with this in mind. In addition, there may be groups from the top end of junior schools, whose teachers are hoping for a stimulating introduction for their pupils into the world of the theatre.

It is understandable that theatre managers want to capitalize on school

Play Days, filling theatres when otherwise they would be empty. But if these events are to be any use they have to be organized with a firm grasp of the kind of audience involved. For example, it really isn't enough to have the wardrobe mistress talking for over an hour to a theatre full of 15-year-olds about designing costumes, and expect to keep their attention. Neither is it reasonable to have actors reproduce the stumbling process of rehearsal as they get into their characters.

On one occasion a nationally-known actor had spent half an hour on stage explaining in great detail how he went about "finding" his character, and how he finally got into the character he was playing. He then asked for questions from the audience, expecting a serious exchange. One lad, alas from my group, put up his hand and asked why the actor was wearing a hat. The actor could only reply that it was to keep his head warm. That was the end of the questions.

The potential for display, for showing the larger than life aspects of theatrical effects, lighting, sound, props seem to be largely ignored. Yet it would be precisely these things which would engage the attention of the young audience and make them more receptive to the more serious aspects of the play under examination.

If the audience has been bored during the morning the afternoon performance is more often than not doomed. I recall one such performance, a play with music, which began with the National Anthem. This, of course, produced cheering and howls of pleasure, and established at one go an "on the terrace" atmosphere that pervaded the play and the players to the

last curtain call. I have rarely seen actors more grateful to get off the stage.

Play Days apart, what can be done to help children get the most from a theatre visit? I offer the following suggestions born of many such visits, during which I have fallen into all the traps and made all the mistakes. 1 If necessary prepare the text with the group. This applies mainly to those pupils studying exam texts, but even those who are not, gain a great deal from a brief plot summary given over several days before. This is especially so for plays where the language is un-modern, the names of characters incredible, or the plots downright silly. (*A Midsummer-Night's Dream* leaps to mind at once.)

2 Explain any conventions which may be unfamiliar. For example, not everyone knows that houselights down is the signal for silence.

3 Insist on silence during the performance, stressing the selfishness of not being quiet. I have never understood why some people find it necessary to eat during a play. The rustle of chocolate and sweet papers can drive sane folk to the verge of murder.

4 If the theatre is a long way away, overestimate the journey time, and so avoid the last minute dash from the coach into the theatre as the curtain is just going up. Having time to soak in the atmosphere in the foyer, and being able to have a good look round is an essential part of the experience.

5 Sit with your group. It seems a totally unnecessary point to make, but teachers not doing this has caused so much trouble that some theatres only book school parties on this condition.

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Buxton's micrarium

The micrarium is a new concept, invention if you like, of Dr Stephen Carter. In the spa town of Buxton's pump room he has created the world's first and, so far, only micrarium. In it he houses 44 special microscopes, each with eight slides.

The instruments round the outer walls project onto screens the natural world's beauty and intricacy. There is no peering into eye pieces. The machines are easily manipulated after simple instruction by any child.

There is a selection button for the slides each with an illuminated description, a lever to shift the lens over the slide, focuser and choice of two magnifications. In the centre of the room are large eyepiece instruments to view solid objects such as sand or an ant's nest.

This is not a scientific experience though it is soundly based on scientific principles and scientifically-minded pupils will find, observe and be able to note phenomena suited to their needs. It is not simply "bugs" as one member of the public commented on entering for the machines store all manner of surprises.

I came sceptically to all this and remained long, fascinated by what I saw. School groups (50p a head) usually spend an hour. The visit will certainly stimulate interest and inquiry in the natural world. Pupils with artistic leanings will find the colours and patterns of nature magnified a source of wonder and inspiration.

One visitor interested in knitting is said to admit that the design for her new jumpers is derived from the cross



"Phantom" larva to be seen at the Buxton Micrarium.

section of a water worm. I stared at a snowflake's sugary charm, gazed on crystals; and press button control enables pupils to melt the shapes and watch them reform.

But I found the living creatures by far the most enjoyable. Worms wriggled and writhed in sinuous ballet. Daphnia, cyclops, water mites and midge larvae all loomed large on my screen. I chased camera shy shrimp - quite a game this indulged in by many and great fun too. I stalked the caddis fly as it wrapped itself in a woolly looking overcoat. I watched the beating heart of a snail - a marvellous moment. Lucky visitors see eggs being laid and hatched.

The micrarium is not a laboratory but a brilliant device to fill pupils with enthusiasm for the animal, vegetable

and mineral world. Dr Carter limits his slides to the natural world deliberately. His micrarium, which he runs as a family business, is a welcome addition to Buxton, now in summer a bustling festival town offering much to visiting groups as well as its surrounding countryside which is ideal for walking. Whether it is the structure of limestone, patterns on a butterfly's wing or diaphanous rotifers, the micrarium makes them live more than exercise or textbook. This is a discovery of colour, patterns and energy. Dr Carter's micrarium enables everyone "To see a World in a grain of sand". Address: Buxton Micrarium, St Ann's Well, The Crescent, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6BQ (telephone 0298 78662).

Dudley Wilson

On the banks of the Dart

Francis Kellaway discovers opportunities for purposeful leisure

SK 333 701 is the National Grid reference locating a multi-purpose complex which is deservedly successful in many specialties. For some years this site was marked on Ordnance Survey maps (and still is on some other maps) as that of an Outward Bound school, and even today some of the attractions of that type of establishment persist. But there is now very much more to encourage a visit.

The River Dart Country Park and Residential Centre has been functioning in ever-developing fashion for some eight years. The facilities include leisure interests for day visitors, camping for holidaymakers, and all-the-year-round residential adventure and management training courses.

All this is in Holne Park on the banks of the Dart, a mile or so north-west of the pleasant country town of Ashburton in Devon. Lately, between the wars, the house became a hotel, and in the forties it was used by the Air Force as a signals headquarters. Some 20 years ago the hotel was taken over as an Outward Bound base. When that body's lease expired in 1973 the family owners started to restore the property and utilize it for leisure and education.

It is a reasonable guess that the recreational side of the programme helps to subsidize the educational aspects, for the charges made to industry, local authorities or youth groups are by no means excessive in this inflationary age. Moreover, the expense of maintaining some 80 acres within the Dartmoor National Park, together with a mansion and other buildings, is awesome.

The Countrywide Commission has given some financial aid towards the restoration of the grounds, but by-and-large the enterprise has to be self-supporting. Its success can be measured on two fronts.

First, there are the opportunities for purposeful leisure. Nature trails through trees and parkland, walks beside the river, lakes and loat; pony riding, fly fishing, swimming and an adventure playground are representative of a catholic list. Two acquaintances, aged 9 and 12, are good judges. "Whenever they are in Devon, the Dart Park is top of their list of places to visit."

Camping is also possible, with all the usual attributes of a first-class site available. Other forms of self-catering

holidays are provided in apartments in the mansion itself, and in houses and a bungalow on the estate.

Then there are other attractive facets of residential life. Groups, with their own teachers or youth leaders, are welcome. So are unaccompanied children between the ages of 9 and 15. (Adequate and experienced supervision is constant and efficient.)

All the pursuits of the country park can be included in the flexible schedules for these youngsters. So are typically, climbing, canoeing, pony-riding, orienteering and archery. Lecture rooms are fully equipped (a recent development is a full range of computer hardware and software so that introductory and more advanced courses are on offer) and, naturally, there is television in one of the several lounges.

Dining provision is first-class. Sleeping accommodation for young visitors is in dormitories containing, say, six bunks, while staff have individual or twin rooms. Tutors for the physical activities are on hand. They can cope with all the necessary instruction and supervision, or they will work in partnership of varying degrees with staff accompanying groups.

A similar pattern applies for older students. Training and personnel managers may organize, independently, programmes for their firm's employees, or may work in conjunction with the centre's staff. Among particularly successful ventures are trainee development courses and personal leadership courses.

The publicity leaflet for the former explains that for people to work efficiently at least three qualities are essential: basic job skills, technical knowledge and responsible attitudes. To help the young worker develop his or her full potential, the centre's general manager and programme director, Mr Peter Sheehan, has devised a basic course. Commitment to work, enhancement of self-confidence, and decision making are among its concomitants.

Similarly, the courses for older workers can follow established lines ("physical, emotional and intellectual experiences"), group inter-activities, team-building, problem-solving and so on, or can be tailor-made to match the requirements of a particular firm. Alternatively, a company may "rent"

accommodation to house an internally-designed programme, with or without the participation of centre staff.

Here the touchstones are the number of return bookings and the degree of occupancy of the building throughout the year. Marking is high on both counts. When I visited the centre in late November, there was a course in full progress, and there was already an 80 per cent of full commitment for 1984.

Fuller details of what is available can be obtained from Mr Sheehan at the River Dart Residential Centre, Holne Park, Ashburton, Devon (telephone: 0364-52511). The variety of activities, and the flexibility of the arrangements for school and youth groups, merit commendation. The accent is on doing, on participation, and on enjoyment.

Wales, West, S. West

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POSITION



Here we go round the mulberry bush

Angela Rose visits a living butterfly collection and silk farm in Dorset

The ideal school visit combines enjoyment with education. It must be fun yet useful, stimulating the student's desire to learn and think for himself. A trip to the Worldwide Butterflies collection and Lullingstone Silk Farm at Compton House near Sherborne, Dorset manages to strike this happy balance.

The collection of lepidoptera - butterflies and moths - at Compton House is one of the largest in the world. It includes a wide variety of species arranged by country of origin and family. Its owner, Robert Goodden, travels extensively, importing many of the species he is unable to successfully breed on the premises. The collection is fascinating, for both visitor and expert.

There are four stages in the life cycle of a butterfly: the egg (ovum), caterpillar (larva), chrysalis (pupa), and adult (imago). During the season that the house is open to the public there is constant activity in the breeding hall with pairing, egg laying and hatching taking place all the time. This is very exciting for the student who can convert his dry biology textbook diagrams into reality.

Many of the hundreds of eggs that are laid are collected and sent to lepidopterists throughout the world - the others are nurtured here. Once the butterfly or moth has emerged from its chrysalis in the breeding hall it hangs motionless for up to 20 minutes waiting for its wings to dry. Its life span is then roughly two to four weeks.

Butterflies need fresh flowers, sunlight and growing foodplant for egg laying, so most are removed from the breeding hall to what is referred to as the jungle or palm house. Here the butterflies can live as nature intended among the tropical foliage and humidity. To cope with all the butterflies living in here, artificial nectar is stored

in plastic flowers to replenish the natural supply.

The displays at Compton House are imaginatively and clearly laid-out with background taped information and guides who are willing to help and answer any questions. Some of the species are really magnificent with their splendid colours and dazzlingly patterned wings - species like the *Heliconius melpomene* from Brazil, the *Parides Pandorus* from New Guinea and the rare English Swallowtail and many more. The guides will lift the species out of their breeding enclosure for students to study at close range.

The butterfly library shows clearly the different range of species and hundreds are displayed and labelled in glass cabinets. Many have developed such subtle powers of camouflage that it is difficult to distinguish between butterfly and nature. A test of observation has been set up for eager students to see how many lepidoptera there is a great stress on butterfly conservation. Pupae are on sale at the shop and teachers can buy different species with instructions on how to rear them in the school laboratory.

Compton House's second attraction is the Lullingstone Silk Farm which the Gooddens bought in 1977. Now part of Worldwide Butterflies, it is a fascinating addition, showing the processes behind the production of silk. Lullingstone silk was used in the Coronation robes of King George VI, the wedding dress of the Queen and, more recently, for the Princess of Wales.

Sericulture, silk worm breeding - originated in the Far East in about 2460 BC and still flourishes today in China, India and Japan. With the exception of Lullingstone, the only area in Europe where silkworms are



still reared is in the southern Mediterranean countries.

Because silkworms are dependent on a diet of mulberry which is hard to grow in such quantities in cold climates, this display at Lullingstone gives visitors a rare opportunity to see the process. It is estimated that one ounce of eggs require one ton of mulberry leaves.

The silkworms can be seen at every stage of their development and again there is emphasis on clarity and understanding. Depending on the temperature of the surroundings, the process from egg to cocoon takes from four to six weeks.

In readiness for the season, the mulberry is grown under glass and many of the eggs are refrigerated all winter and then incubated. The newly-hatched larvae, or silkworms, are like tiny black beads and as they munch their way through the strips of mulberry they grow and grow, shedding their skins four times in 30-34 days as their bodies increase in size. After the fifth instar, or de-roberment, the caterpillar is ready to spin its cocoon.

Unlike other caterpillars, silkworms do not wander but at this time they tend to wave their heads in the air and actively search for somewhere to settle. The cocoon takes about three days to spin and the silk is produced from twin spinnerets behind the mouth. It is a liquid which hardens on contact with the air.

The caterpillar then settles inside the cocoon, sheds its final larval skin to form a pupa. Within a month a moth is formed and if left will break its way out of the shell. Once pierced, a cocoon cannot be reeled, so it is taken for reeling before the moth is ready to emerge. The thread on each cocoon can be as much as 3 miles long, although only about 1,000 metres are reable.

If allowed to hatch the moths soon pair and lay their eggs, about 400, which are then stored in a cool place for the following spring. These eggs can also be bought at the shop.

A video shows the process of reeling and there is a demonstration in the flat room which is the only reeling room

in Britain. The history of sericulture is described in a series of wall pictures and diagrams.

Apart from all the visual information, there are worksheets for the pupils to fill in, with a master copy for the teacher. This is very much a school visit with "doing" in mind as well as "seeing". It will appeal to a mixed-ability class and all ages. School parties are advised to book in advance and are also eligible for discounts, with free entrance for teachers. The season runs from March 31 to October 31.

Information obtainable from Worldwide Butterflies and Lullingstone Silk Farm at Compton House, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 4QN. Tel: Yeovil 7400.



Watching the birdie

Bradford's surprising boom as a tourist centre helped land a prime attraction when the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television opened last June. It is an undoubted boon to schools and colleges.

Somewhat disappointed by the displays already open, I reserve judgment until 1986 when phase two is complete. To me, the most satisfying sections are devoted to what photography achieves in changing shows of work by such artists as Manuel Alvarez Bravo and David Hockney bringing real riches to Bradford.

Schools groups can spend a rewarding half day in nine galleries where many working models present photography - from the ancient Camera Obscura to the ultra-modern satellite, from galaxy to microscope - as our window on the world.

"Watch the Birdie" includes a stylish recreation of a bird's studio down to art deco wallpaper and corner gas fire. An eerie warwick of Lord Lightfield with flicking eyelids delivers advice on technique. But how much more magic: all are those real Camera Obscura at Clifton and Dumfries.

The Photography is New office

good as they are, are not as effective as a tour of any local newspaper. The "Motion" gallery, an amusement arcade ranging from zoetrope and thaumatrope to Smellies and 3D, lends to the IMAX cinema screening "To Fly" several times daily.

The Education Unit (telephone 0274 725347 ext 231) emphasises practical work in darkroom and video studio to provide depth for some of the stimulation garnered in the galleries. A cafeteria affords panoramic views over fabled Alhambra, Odeon Bingo, Town Hall, Transport Exchange and Norfolk Gardens Hotel - some window on Bradford!

Museum entrance is free but there is a charge for IMAX. Bradford's charge for the general public offer discoveries of the Brontës, bargains at Mill Shops. Journeys into television and film locales plus a special "Camera" holiday based on the Museum.

DW

Guiding hand

Organizing a school visit or holiday can be a daunting prospect. But a handy booklet just published by Cornhill Publications Limited called "Group Organiser 1984" provides a good guide to the potential pitfalls of group travelling.

The booklet explains why it is better

to use travel agents - their services are free, and they will arrange sightseeing tours as well as airline tickets, accommodation and connecting flights.

There are also fairly detailed accounts of the services provided by airports and hotels and advice on how to hire a plane, yacht, or coach. But the booklet points out that school parties are perhaps better suited to train travel where they are able to walk about and look at the scenery, than to coach trips.

Readers are also warned not to overlook exclusion clauses in insurance cover, particularly if they will be taking part in sports like skiing. It can be extremely expensive to fly a sick or injured person back from the U.S.A. or the Middle East.

Although most of the booklet is geared to business travel, which these days in the fastest growing part of the travel market, there are helpful bulletins for group leaders of skiing, hiking, for example. Is the equipment well included in the price? How can long queues at the ski-lifts be avoided? Lists of activity holidays are given, as well as theme tours and events. Holidays for the adventurous are mentioned like an African safari, hang gliding from Mount Fuji or a walk across Tibet.

Another useful inclusion is a 16-page leaflet on "Protecting your holiday abroad", which provides information on vaccination requirements especially for hotter climates, and some of the other precautions overseas travellers should take.

Trisha Johnson

When, as a young teacher, I began to take parties abroad, I was very proud of my technique for getting through the Customs with minimum delay. All the boys were warned before departure and again during the trip that they were not allowed to bring in alcohol or tobacco. Then, a couple of days before our return, they were each issued with a sheet of blank paper.

"Now I want you all to write down on this paper everything you are going to declare," I would say. There were knowing grins and nudges, which I pretended not to notice. The only time, a boy asked "Oh, does that mean we don't have to declare everything then, sir?" he was put down by a chorus of grunts.

I would march importantly ahead of the group with my sheaf of papers, find an unoccupied Customs officer and say firmly, "I have a group of 30 schoolboys, aged 14 to 16. They have all been told that they're not allowed to bring in alcohol or cigarettes. These are the lists of what they have to declare." It was usually simply a question of being waved through.

The introduction of green channels made the process even easier. No more lines were needed, just a reminder about the prohibition before and during the trip. To any questions I would reply sternly, "You are not allowed to import alcohol or tobacco. There are two channels..." It did not occur to me to offer advice on the morality of the situation, still less to raise a discussion before, during or after the trip.

Then I changed from visits to group exchanges. At the end of our first visit to Germany, it became clear that a new element had entered the process of going through Customs.

"Sir, my partner's father gave me a bottle of wine to take home. I told him I wasn't allowed to, but he just laughed and told me to hide it at the bottom of my case."

"I'm not sure I wanted to know that," I said, and at once felt ashamed. "No, no, you were quite right to tell me."

It quickly emerged that most of the group were carrying similar gifts. A strategy was called for. I marched at the head of the group into the green channel, found an unoccupied Customs officer and said firmly, "I have a group of 30 schoolboys. They have all been told they're not allowed to bring in alcohol, but they've been staying in German families, and some of them have had bottles of wine thrust upon them..."

With varying degrees of hesitation, perplexity and suspense, we were allowed through, year after year, until eventually changed schools and gave up exchanges.

This year, in another new school, I took a party to France for an exchange, and on the bus back to the French Channel port,

"Sir, my partner's father..." "Don't worry," I said, "I'll have a word with the Customs."

I had intended to apply the old technique and march at the head of the



Moral customs

By N. W. R. Mellon

group, but I was held up at Immigration because of a slight irregularity in the collective passport, and a colleague was waved on in my place.

I caught up to find a scene of consternation. Thirty pairs of fearful eyes were turned towards me, and three Customs men were holding a muttered conference.

"Are you the leader of this group, sir? Apparently many of these juveniles are carrying alcohol."

"Yes," I said firmly, "They have all been staying in French families, and some of them have had bottles of wine thrust upon them..."

"It's not allowed," he said. "I know," I said, "but you can see how it happened. They didn't feel able to refuse."

He hesitated for a while and flipped through a register.

"The duty on each of these bottles is about £1," he said in a meaning way I did not understand.

"But it's not really a question of duty, is it?" I said knowledgeably. "It's just not allowed below age."

Thus are our reflexes blunted through lack of practice. Too late I realized I had crudely declined a way out.

"How many teachers are there with the group?" he eventually asked.

"Four."

"Have you all got the full allowance

with you?"

"I have." (That old habit of truth). "But I'll ask the others."

Wonder of wonders, two of them had not. Reflexes picking up, I took care not to ask exactly how short of the limit they were.

"Two of my colleagues are under the full allowance," I was able to report back.

There was a long pause and he looked me in the eye.

"In that case, we can count the boys' wine against the teachers' allowance."

"Thank you very much," I said gratefully.

But he had not finished. "This has been a very difficult one, sir. As you know, strictly speaking, juveniles are now allowed to bring in anything. But there is a way of avoiding the problem. If you do this sort of thing regularly, and you know something similar's going to happen each time, perhaps the teachers could forego their own allowance..."

N. W. R. Mellon is headmaster of King Edward VI School, Stratford-upon-Avon.

History without a Glass Case

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For full details of coming exhibitions, the latest brochure and special rates for parties, contact: AVONCROFT MUSEUM OF BUILDINGS, Museum House, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 9JW. Tel: Stratford 33361 (3 lines).



Stone tent

Four "stone tents" in the Peak District National Park are being made available to camps for overnight stays by the Peak Planning Board and the Countryside Commission. Priced at only £1.25 per night, they are expected to appeal particularly to walkers and cyclists, though car-parking will be available nearby.

Formerly farm barns, they are equipped with wooden sleeping platforms, table, bench, cooking area, tap, washing-bowls, hooks and toilet, but nothing else. So campers using them will be advised to take sleeping-bags, torch and cooking-stove. Two hold 12 people and two hold eight. When full, each person will have a 6 ft x 2 ft space to sleep.

"It's a pleasant way to camp and the tent doesn't leak," says the leaflet which the board has just published about them. However, it warns: "As in the Alps, but or mountain bothy, there is little privacy and the accommodation is unisex."

They will be available to anyone over 18, though young people under 18 will have to be accompanied by an adult and dogs will not be permitted. The tents are an important feature of the Peak District's landscape, the

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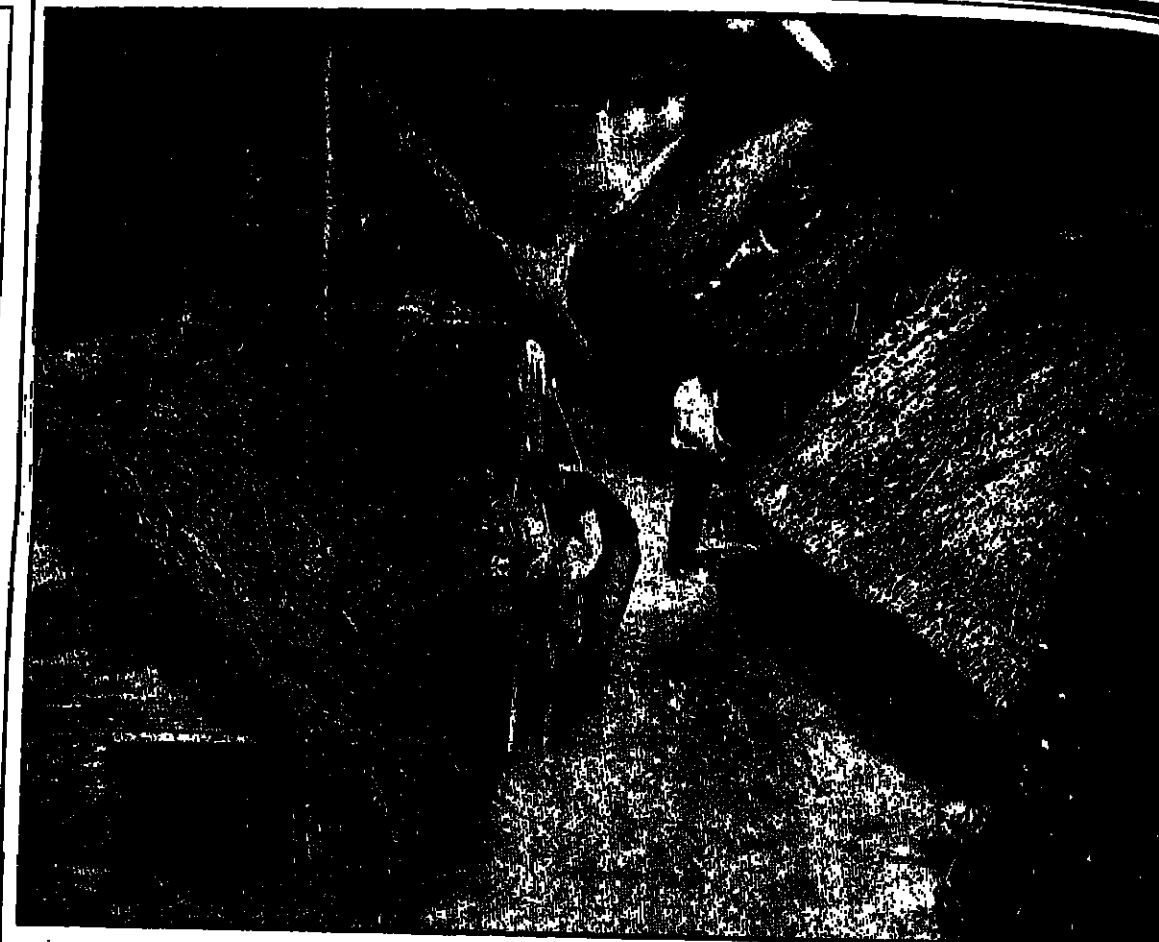
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EXTRA



Thatchers add the finishing touches to the full-scale replica of Viking Age houses.

The Vikings are coming!

Dudley Wilson previews their new settlement in York

York is soon to add to its many attractions a superlative, new tourist concept, Jorvik Viking Centre. Jorvik was the Viking name for York and the exciting significance of that city's role in Viking civilization was revealed during the five-and-a-half-years-long excavations in the late 1970s.

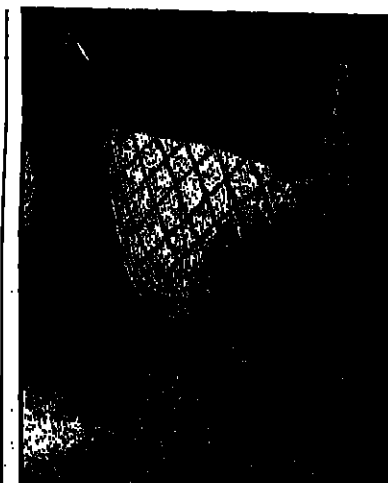
The Vikings have traditionally had a romantically bad press in Britain as looters and worse, who unaccountably wore horns as headgear, but their image is changing. Magnus Magnusson's television series on the Vikings did much to straighten the record and Jorvik will complete the job. The centre opens on April 14 and will be royally inaugurated by Prince Charles in May.

I saw the underground site nearing completion and predict that Jorvik will be a number one tourist draw. It uses theatrical techniques throughout with special effects in lighting and sound but every detail has scrupulous historical accuracy.

Yes, it is entertainment, but it provides a valid educational experience through enjoyment of Viking life. That huge hole where the archaeologists uncovered such splendid artifacts and, more amazingly, wooden houses and workshops preserved in water-logged soil, is now Jorvik Centre. It lurks beneath Coppergate shopping precinct at the heart of York.

Visitors enter from the bustle of modern York and descend in electronically operated time cars, backwards at first through the centuries passing blazing ruins to arrive in Viking Jorvik, as it was late one October market day, in the year 984. Here, in all sound, activity, smells even.

Viking dwellings have been reconstructed, with thatch roofs, ducks quack, merchants bargain. The street



Evidence for widespread trade and commerce was one of the features of The Coppergate Dig. This sea going cargo ship is one of the displays at the Jorvik Centre.

is convincingly filthy, even to excreta, with every weed, tree, leaf and blade of grass guaranteed authentic in appearance. Visitors will gaze on antler carvers, cup makers (hence the corruption, Coppergate), families working and playing, a splendid wharf and more as the cars slowly wend along.

The multi-sound track is a kaleidoscope score of Old Norse songs, conversations, work noises and music. Graham Ibbeson has created dozens of figures, many happily unlike the usual lardy-textured, waxworks. These are chunky and convincing. Commentary, by the way, is available on the time car at the touch of a button. In four languages with our modern Viking Magnus himself providing the English version.

The whole conception is a triumph for designer John Sutherland and represents a highly successful fusion of theatrical arts, electronic wizardry and the disciplines of archaeology. I loved the time cars, derived, I think, from those which whirled us round the Ghost Train or soothed us through the Tunnel of Love.

As the market street ends, the cars move into a reconstruction of the dig itself complete with Portacabin, shored-up sections, tatty roof and, prize of prizes, those precious timbers now treated, puzzled together and reconstructed just foot from whence they came. Jorvik does for archaeology what the great Diaghilev show did for exhibitions generally.

As for the Vikings — well they will never be the same in our eyes again. The cost is a terrific £2.6m and related statistics are bewildering. The centre aims to attract half a million visitors annually. Many of these especially off season, lured by reduced group charges, will be school parties. I hope the centre does provide full educational back-up kits, lectures, seminar room perhaps.

The tour (15 minutes in time cars plus another 45 minutes at least for the impressive static displays — some encouragingly labelled "Please Touch") needs careful handling, preparation and follow up. Otherwise a mixture of Dr Who and Disney will simply thrill young time-warpers.

We need to treat that thrill as charge to assist in the learning of creative experience. Write for details to Rosalind Bowden, Cultural Resources Manager, 3 King's Court, King's Square, York YO1 2LE (telephone 0904 32342) or to Jorvik Centre, Coppergate after the opening.

Some of these talks have been followed up by discussions in the school a few weeks later. These have proved of great value and it is hoped to continue this scheme for the rest of the year.

Through their activities with young people Light Fantastic hopes to draw new young creative talent into this medium.

The gallery is open Monday 10am-6pm, Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm, and Sunday noon to 6pm. Admission for school parties is 40p per person. For further information contact Light Fantastic Gallery, 48, South Row, The Market, Coventry, London WC2E 8FN. 01-835 6423.

Madeline Pepper

EXTRA

Favourite
outing

London Zoo, with its huge collection of animals, promises something new to see on every visit — whether it be the rare Arabian Oryx, the first on view for 20 years, a leopard cub suckling its mother, or a baby Bongo, due in the spring. Indeed, the Arabian Oryx are worth a visit on their own for their presence illustrates the vital role of the modern zoo in saving such endangered species from extinction.

Whatever subject comes under discussion, London Zoo seems to be able to provide an animal to bring it to life. A zoo visit is still the favourite outing, whether as an independent group or on one of the zoo's lecture tours. Indeed, London Zoo's education staff teach more children each year than do the staff at any of London's museums and art galleries.

The zoo's lecture/demonstrations take place throughout the year, and in the summer term there are also tours at Whipsnade Park — with its spacious paddocks and fabulous Dolphin Shows.

The secondary school tours at London Zoo are programmed for the spring and autumn terms, but can also be provided in the summer, whilst the primary school work continues throughout the year, with a special auxiliary service when very small groups of ten or so children are taken to see the most exciting and best known animals. The programmes are continuously being updated and improved, and are extremely popular.

Charges are kept to the minimum, for the zoo makes no profit on its educational programmes, and, though bookings have to be made in advance, payment is only made for the number who come on the day. Accompanying teachers are admitted free.

This summer, the apes and monkeys will be an attractive subject for school projects, for they are to be specially promoted, with new information panels.



Age the first Orang-utan born in Britain to parents who were themselves born in zoos.



London Zoo plays a vital role in helping to save endangered species, like this little sloth from South America.

Bob's your uncle

By Susan Thomas

Everyone needs an uncle. For plenty of us these days, uncles seem to have replaced fathers. Many young children are adept at acquiring uncles wherever they go. You notice this on school journeys. You've hardly been away from home for a couple of hours and they have fitted themselves up with an uncle or so.

These journeys represent for many 10-year-olds their first stay away from home. Teachers, however nice, are still teachers, but coach drivers soon become uncles.

They take on the role with effortless ease. There's usually a sticker on the window saying "Call me Bert", or "Uncle", and kids and driver slot in, together like old mates in five minutes flat.

One "uncle" discovered within the first two hours that he really was an uncle to one little passenger. It was the uncle story. A broken marriage when John was still a baby and then no contact with Dad or his brothers. John was overjoyed. Shouldered the others out of the way and took over. "You can only call him uncle if I say so," he said. "I'm not your real uncle."

Steve was a bit embarrassed at first but he took it manfully, stood him sticks of rock and plastic toys. It was great for John. He was the original barrack room lawyer and just for once he did have something positive to brag about.

Steve was terrific on school journeys. That was his first experience but he gave up after that. The first night at Street Youth Hostel we all went out after supper to play rounders on the wooded grass verge. The kids were Steve every time he went in to get a drink. He was really good at it. He was really good at it. He was really good at it.

The great thing about uncles is that they are not too involved. You can tell them things without fear of repercussions. Then again, being uncles and your own stock so to speak they talk the same language. On a school journey you can tell your uncle how to communicate. Going round visiting the museum at Avebury Hill you could see who had really done his homework. These journeys are the culmination of a term's study. The children have learnt about the Neolithic period, the

through boredom, it was dusk. One more game. The adults to hide and 50 kids to hunt.

We set off in all directions. The trouble is that as a leader among children you are expected to be able to do all things well. Steve ran along a dry ditch taking care not to break cover, he was too young to have done National Service, but he must have read plenty of war books. The children counted on a rising note — 48, 49, 50. With a roar that would have done credit to Cardiff Arms Park they streamed away from the coach which was home base and spread out through the woods. The night was drawing in fast and they made it the more fearful hunting calls. Steve judged the moment right to head back to base. Keeping low he turned up the ditch. A rearward party came through the woods behind. Still keeping low, still working in best commando style, he made the mistake of looking back while going forward.

He ran headlong into an oak bough which hung over the ditch. He knocked himself over briefly, coming to find himself lying in the damp leaves at the bottom of the ditch. He crawled back to the coach where he slept for some time. He suffered an agonizing headache for the rest of the journey. Nephew John was particularly proud. His uncle was the only one who played the game properly, twisted ankle, split head and all.

The great thing about uncles is that they are not too involved. You can tell them things without fear of repercussions. Then again, being uncles and your own stock so to speak they talk the same language. On a school journey you can tell your uncle how to communicate. Going round visiting the museum at Avebury Hill you could see who had really done his homework. These journeys are the culmination of a term's study. The children have learnt about the Neolithic period, the

Belgian and the major prehistoric ages.

"That longbarrow now" said coach driver Bill "the one you lot went in just down the road. This started off as a place where the cavemen could hide from the dinosaurs. Then those that got killed, they left in the back rooms. This stone circle now, was built by the druids so they could have their sacrifices there. How often? Once a week, probably Saturday night." Well, Saturday night would be a good night for it. Years of teaching undone at the drop of a word. Dinosaurs and men involved in deadly battle are reinstated in the children's minds. Thanks to Bill, Hollywood was excited. But kids are very perceptive. After all, the dates of Megalithic barrows and circles are important to very few people — only teachers really. Uncles, now matter. If you don't tell the truth, or you show off too much, or you're lazy, the kids pretty soon suss you out. One driver we had remained truly the driver, though he was fairly desperate to be every one's uncle.

The girls immediately noticed that he had bleached his hair. "Why did he do that?" they asked. "Did it himself," he said. "Costs too much otherwise." "You shouldn't have," they said. "It looks awful."

He didn't wash properly, never took a turn at the hostel chores, slept in the coach while we traipsed on the moors, and, on the one occasion that he did come out for a walk with us, he was "even worse than that silly Darren". Throwing stones, climbing over gates instead of using the styles and breaking just about every rule in the country. They sensed that his loneliness sprang from his own weakness. Polite to his face, privately they said he was silly. Nobody wanted to adopt him. You need to be able to be proud of an uncle. After all, if you occupy such a coveted position you have to be able to live up to it.

Month-by-month

Every March, the children of St Clement Dane's Primary School receive an orange and a lemon following a special service at the parish church in the Strand. The custom dates back to 1920 when the vicar installed a carillon to play the famous nursery rhyme.

It is one of London's many annual events which are listed in a useful booklet, *Traditional London*. There is a month-by-month index to them — historic ceremonies, processions and festivals — and they are also described alphabetically at greater length. Addresses and telephone numbers are included for further information or tickets, though these are frequently not necessary.

The events are remarkably varied. There is a Dickens Drive, which heralds Christmas each year, a Punch and Judy Festival commemorating the first show (in the Churchyard of St

Paul's in May 1662) and Druid Solstices in spring and autumn. As a calendar, the guide is a compact source of reference for a visit to London. It also illustrates the scope of possible back-up resources for classroom projects.

For instance, anyone can attend the fortnightly meetings of the Court of Common Council in Guildhall, headed by the Lord Mayor, with a short talk beforehand on its history and role. The election ceremony of the Sheriffs of the City of London is also open to the public, though tickets have to be applied for in advance.

Traditional London, 40p from London Tourist Board Information Centres or by post, 60p, from the Sales Department, LTB, 26 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1.

Scotland

Pitlochry's
Exhibition of Power

In the last two years the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board has produced at its power station in Pitlochry an exhibition devoted to depicting the development of hydro power in the Tummel Valley.

A 15 min video film pinpoints the numerous power stations and their individual contributions to the electrical power system in the North of Scotland. A large scale model together with Mimic diagrams and colour photographs provide attractive additional educational material.

In addition to the hydro power theme of the exhibition there is a room devoted to the fascinating story of the salmon and the steps the Board has taken to provide fish passes at many of its major dams. Here too the subject is illustrated by a short video film and numerous colour photographs.

Downstairs the exhibition features a selling area where a wide range of leaflets, postcards, slides and mementoes can be bought.

Pitlochry Exhibition is open from 9.40 to 5.30 seven days a week from the end of March to the end of October.

During April, May, June and October one member of the staff with every group of 10 students will be admitted free. The charge for all schoolchildren irrespective of age is 10p each.

Harnessing the power of the Tummel Valley and looking after fish — twin themes of this popular exhibition seen last year by over 100,000 people — provide an interesting and educational experience. Don't miss it.

Further details from Press & Public Relations Officer, North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, 16 Rothesay Terrace, Edinburgh from March 26, phone Pitlochry 3152. (667)

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EXTRA



The Young National Trust Theatre in action at Quarry Bank Mill at Styal, Cheshire.

Beginning a new phase

The National Trust is becoming increasingly involved with educational visits. Gillian Thomas reports on latest developments

As curator of Sudbury Hall, Derbyshire, in the early 1970s, John Hodgson invited a theatre director to come and work with school groups to re-enact local historic incidents. But he kept the idea secret as he knew many of his National Trust colleagues would throw up their hands in horror at it! However, it worked so well that even before he became the trust's education adviser in 1977, he was asked to set up the Young National Trust Theatre, a group of six actors who stage plays specially written for school visits and which involve the children. Now properties queue up to host the group, though costs limit its productions to four a year, each running for three weeks. (It is supported by £25,000 annually from Lloyds Bank).

Encouraging children to discover history, the arts and the environment through all kinds of creative activities—drama, painting, music—is at the heart of John Hodgson's approach to the educational use of the trust's resources.

And, of course, these are not confined to its 83 large country houses and 21 castles. In addition, there are 429 miles of coastline, 70 historic sites, nearly half a million acres of countryside, plus an assortment of villages, mills and even dovecotes.

The National Trust for Scotland, a separate organization, has a similarly imaginative policy towards schools.

"I want teachers to be adventurous, to try different things out in different places," he says. "Crowds and pre-

cious furniture willing, we'll cooperate in any way we can.

"Many teachers are still uncertain how to use a visit, but I'm most anxious that properties should not be seen by children as just another boring subject. They are homes, not museums, and I do all I can to discourage the worksheet syndrome.

"Counting chairs adds nothing to a child's perception of a place whereas dressing up and acting out historic events can bring it to life vividly and just as important—be enormous fun."

The National Trust's involvement with schools is currently beginning a new phase, the result of his solid spadework over the past six years. In fact most houses have now grown to enjoy school parties; indeed an internal enquiry showed surprisingly that they were the best behaved visitors of all. And from the financial point of view they realize that children are the clients of the future.

As a result of this "enlightened self-interest," as John Hodgson puts it, he is being bombarded with requests for help—advice on teachers' packs, children's guide books and how to organize school visits. A handful have appointed permanent education officers; this is obviously the ideal solution but is usually only feasible financially when the property is administered by a local authority.

"Providing educational facilities poses a dilemma for the trust," he explains. "Its prime responsibility is maintenance, and money bequested

for that purpose cannot be diverted. However, it is very much in the spirit of Octavia Hill, one of the three founders, that all visitors should see the houses and countryside as a national resource.

"One hundred years ago she was fighting to preserve open spaces like Hampstead Heath and Epping Forest. She even succeeded in getting some London churchyards turned into playgrounds for the poor children to whom she taught art."

Apart from his salary, the trust allocates to its education services £10,000 for the 16 regional offices and £7,000 for publicity material, including booklets like *Educational Resources*, *Advice to Teachers* and a new *Resources* leaflet with project ideas, events and background information, which is being sent to all schools through I.C.A.S. each term.

John Hodgson believes that the way forward in the education field is to recruit more volunteers. But he recognizes that they will need training and to be serviced professionally in order to satisfy the specialized needs of schools. Several voluntary schemes are under way. After advertising for help, a team of eight teachers in the southern region are responsible for providing volunteer education officers, resource material and give talks at properties in the area. In the Severn region, Keith Eggleston, who retired recently as the secretary of the Heritage Education Trust, plans to set up a working party on similar lines.

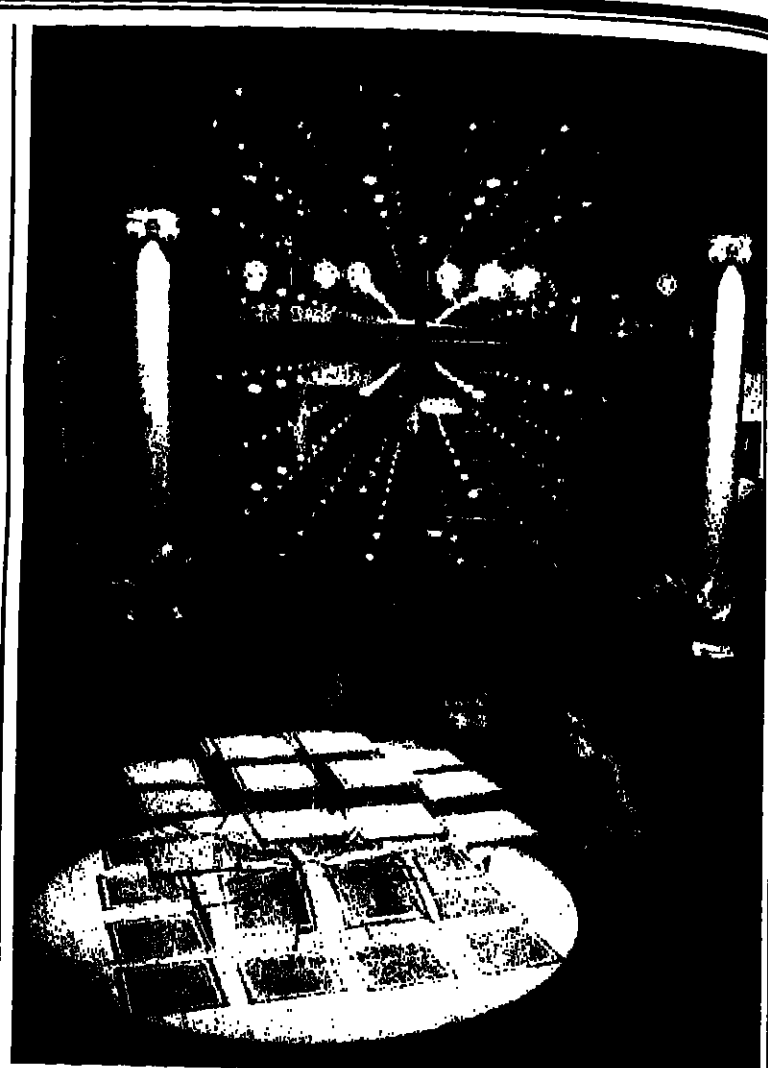
Meanwhile, MSC teams in North Wales and Merseyside (the Midlands) are working with local properties while at Stapleole, a magnificent area of woods, beaches and rocky headlands in South Wales, a residential centre for field work and outdoor pursuits has been set up.

The book, *Discovering the National Trust*, published in November, introduces children to its aims through lively accounts of the people who lived in the houses and where they worked. It encapsulates the trust's current approach to education.

The author, John Barry, a former teacher, is now being employed for one day a week to work on publications, such as teachers' packs and children's guides. But he stresses that every property is unique and has to be discovered in a different way. A spirited free leaflet on pollution has already appeared with two similar ones on castles to follow.

The Education Service is at 8 Church Street, Lacock, Clippingham, Wiltshire, G24 9JZ (430 and 569 for the Young National Trust Theatre). Junior Division (for membership and voluntary help) The Old Grange House, Cliveden, Maidenhead, TG6 2NE. Annual fee of up to 60 children per day. Publications and leaflets from 42 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1, 01-222 9251; including *Education through the Arts*, a practical guide on using properties by John Hodgson (£1, inc. p & p).

The National Trust for Scotland, 5 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, G3 7NF. Head of Education, Marista Lehmann. Educational Guide covering all properties and countryside (£3.45 inc. p & p).



The Science Museum in Exhibition Road London SW7 (01-593 3468) is staging a highly successful exhibition entitled *Light Dimensions*. This exhibition has been extended until April 23 and is well-worth a visit. Open Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm. Adults £1.75, students and children over 7 £1 and children under 7 free.

Behind the wallpaper

The "Care of Buildings" exhibition at Hampton Court proved to be a big surprise. "Built" permanently into a former Grace and Favour apartment there by the Building Conservation Trust, it is not devoted to the restoration of historic edifices, as I had expected. Instead, its concern is the maintenance of buildings of every sort.

Through the same principles obviously apply to monuments of national grandeur as to my 1930s house in suburbia, the exhibition concentrates on the sort of problems which are all too familiar to every household, like age, general wear and tear and damp.

If school visits usually aspire to loftier planes than do-it-yourself, it cannot fail to strike a chord in anyone with experience of a roof over their head. And what could be of more lasting relevance than that?

Why is there so much condensation in a kitchen and what are the effects of it? The answer is clearly displayed by two extremely authentic-looking kitchens, one in a state of dingy dilapidation, the other an identical one looking clean and smart its problems rectified. And when you walk through the back door into the yard "outside", the state of the brickwork, windows and paint can also be compared.

The exterior of two floors of typical Victorian terrace house comes next, also full-size. Its stucco is painted and sash windows carefully repaired; the exhibition constantly emphasizes the importance of trying to preserve the true character of a building by using appropriate materials and quality workmanship.

The apartment, which was prepared for the trust by the Department of the Environment, has itself been imaginatively converted to house the exhibition. Altogether there are over 30 different rooms, set out in sequence to depict separate sections, including an alley of drains, a sitting room and a roof-top. The last shows examples of tiles and slates which are available for repairs, as well as the faults which can develop in a chimney.

Around the walls are clear explanations of the various sorts of maintenance work and repair which are of particular interest to householders with specific problems. There is also a reference library and meeting room

where groups can arrange to have an introductory talk.

One large room, itself splendidly restored, is devoted to historic buildings. It centres on the Covent Garden scheme, with the GLC's scale model as a centre piece accompanied by a set of interesting folders of photographs.

The trust, formed in 1979, aims to promote the proper conservation, alteration and maintenance of buildings, old and new. It has on its council representatives from 40 institutions, also government and educational bodies. Financial support comes from a wide range of firms and organizations.

The director, John Griffiths, formerly an architect with the DOE, sees the exhibition as the building industry's equivalent of the Science Museum, depicting what goes on behind the wallpaper. Certainly it intrigued my 15-year-old son, who accompanied me. Normally he shows a teenager's understandable disinterest in leaking gutters and peeling paint but it undoubtedly convinced him that conservation begins at home.

Care of Buildings Exhibition, Hampton Court Palace, East Molesey, Surrey (right of the main entrance to the Palace itself). Telephone 01-943 2277. School groups 50p, students 75p, adults £1. Open 9.30-5 daily (Sun from 12).

MH

YHA benefits

Youth hostels in England and Wales are opening their doors to educational groups aged between 7 and 20. The only qualification is that the main leader must be over 18 and a YHA member.

Advance bookings, which will have to be made on headed notepaper, will be made direct with the hostel involved and its normal facilities will be fully available. Schools, colleges and youth groups are all expected to make use of the scheme, which will also be available to handicapped groups of all ages. The YHA hopes it will encourage a much wider appreciation of the benefits of youth hostelling and of the educational potential of both town and countryside.

Further details from: Countryside & Education Officer, YHA, St Stephen's Hill, St Albans, Herts AL1 2D.

PRIMARY HEADSHIPS

continued

CUMBRIA

COUNTY COUNCIL
PAENORCHURCH
COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL
Wren Way, Paenorchurch, Earsby, Farnborough, Hampshire
N.O.R. 260

Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Farnborough on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

DORSET

LANGLIST C.E. (V.C.)
COMBINED SCHOOL
Langlist Road, Poole
Age range 5-13, 900 on roll

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Poole on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

DYFED

CYNGOR IAR DYFED
YSGOL Y NEU BOEYN
DYFED ABERYDDER
ABERYDDER, CWMILYN
ABERYDDER, CWMILYN
ABERYDDER, CWMILYN

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Aberystwyth on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

EAST SUSSEX

HALES SCHOOL (AIDED)
Hales Road, Brighton
Age range 5-13, 100 on roll

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Brighton on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

GLoucestershire

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Gloucester on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

Hampshire

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Southampton on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

Hertfordshire

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Hertford on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

Kent

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Maidstone on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Enfield

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Enfield on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Haringey

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London Borough of Havering

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Havering on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Hillingdon

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Hillingdon on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Hounslow

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Hounslow on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Isleworth

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Isleworth on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Kensington and Chelsea on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Lambeth

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Lambeth on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Lewisham

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Lewisham on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Merton

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Merton on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Newham

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Newham on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Redbridge

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Redbridge on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Richmond upon Thames on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Sutton

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Sutton on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Wandsworth

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Wandsworth on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

HAMPSHIRE

continued

PAENORCHURCH

PAENORCHURCH
COUNTY JUNIOR SCHOOL
Wren Way, Paenorchurch, Earsby, Farnborough, Hampshire
N.O.R. 260

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LANGLIST C.E. (V.C.)
COMBINED SCHOOL
Langlist Road, Poole
Age range 5-13, 900 on roll

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Hales Road, Brighton
Age range 5-13, 100 on roll

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London Borough of Haringey

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London Borough of Havering

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London Borough of Hillingdon

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London Borough of Hounslow

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Hounslow on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Isleworth

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Isleworth on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

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London Borough of Lambeth

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London Borough of Lewisham

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London Borough of Merton

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London Borough of Newham

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Newham on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Redbridge

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Redbridge on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Richmond upon Thames on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Sutton

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Sutton on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

London Borough of Wandsworth

Head Teacher for Group 4. Applications for September 1984. The post of Head Teacher, Group 4 School, is vacant. Closing date 8th March, 1984. Application forms and further details obtainable from Area Education Officer, Wandsworth on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (65785) 110010

HAMPSHIRE

continued

PAENORCHURCH

PAENORCHURCH

EAST SUSSEX
ST RICHARD'S R.C.
SCHOOL
Aldington Road, Boxhill-on-Sea, TN40 1BE
Comprehensive mixed, 11 - 16. Roll: 605
Required from September 1st
Head of Remedial Department -
- Scale 2
The School attaches great emphasis to the education of pupils with special needs. Considerable scope will be given to the person appointed to further develop the D

Relocation grants available in approved cases. Apply by letter (see please to the Headmaster, enclosing CV and names and addresses of two referees. (54680). 13101

ROFOLK TY HEAD

SCHOOL, GORLESTON

Waters Community
Education

I Teacher

field social workers
Kath Lewis (Assistant Principal) or Phil
us £1,056 Responsibility Allowance and
calls from the Personnel Officer, Ref:
SS/28/170XE, Civic Centre,
Uxbridge. Telephone 01-861
1299 (24 hour answering

CAN YOU EVEREST?

...ar been unsuccessful in
...ment for a teacher of general
...riety of resources for
...st trials point. If you have
...se and a sense of adventure
...verest, ring Sally Wells at
...ridge 53272, for more
...should have passed their

reference plus £1,058
and £615 London Weighting.
Further details from the
SS/26/172XE, Civic Centre,
Luton Bridge 50589 (24 hour
answering service).
Applications from
disabled persons
welcome. Closing date:
7th March 1984.

Ashdown Road, Bexhill-on-
 Sea, East Sussex, TN39 5
 Comprehensive mixed, 11 -
 16. Roll: 605
 - Head of School from September 1st
 Head of Remedial Department -
 - The School attaches greater
 emphasis to the education of
 the physically handicapped.
 Considerable scope will be
 given to the person appointed
 to further develop the De-
 partment. Scale 3 post avail-
 able to suitably qualified ap-
 plicant.
 Relocation grants available
 in certain cases.
 Apply by letter (see please)
 to Headmaster, the Director
 of CV and name and address of
 two referees. (545680)

Required from September, 1984, for this recently re-organised co-educational All-ability High School, 12-16 age range, 686 pupils, to play a major role in its development. A TVEI Project begins in September. Specific responsibility for the timetable and boys' welfare, as well as sharing in day-to-day organisation.

Further details and application forms from the County Education Officer, Room 32, County Hall, Norwich NR1 2DL. (S.p.s. please).

Closing date for applications 9th March, 1984.

St Christopher's in Hayes, Middlesex, is managed by Social Services for the London Region. It has developed as a flexible resource for an urban setting to provide full residential care for 20+ boys and day care for up to 18 boys (13-18 years). These boys have a wide range of abilities and difficulties. The home works closely with families, the community and local schools.

We need a TEACHER

- to plan and execute individual educational programmes
- to work with individuals or small groups
- to teach basics and general subjects
- help develop programme for 16+
- to blend intellectual, social and life skills teaching
- to offer a range of other skills and interests
- to manage 'extreme' behaviours
- to participate with residential and field social workers

For further information, please ring Kath Lewis (Assistant Principal) or Phil Friend (Principal) on 01-881 1229.

Salary dependent on experience plus £1,056 Responsibility Allowance and £815 London Weighting.

(9085)

quoting post number CE-1244, retrievable by year and
1984.

Middlesex Lodge has so far been unsuccessful in making a Scale 1 appointment for a teacher of general subjects. We provide a variety of resources for adolescent girls who are at crisis point. If you have humour, strength of purpose and a sense of adventure (hence the relevance of Everest), ring Sally Wells at Middlesex Lodge, on Uxbridge 53272, for more information. Candidates should have passed their probationary period.

Uxbridge. Telephone Uxbridge 50589 (24 hour

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES POLICY Applications are welcome from suitably qualified

Somerset County Council

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM QUALIFIED TEACHERS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS, UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE. APPLICATION FORMS AND DETAILS (SEE FOOLSCAP) FROM THE HEAD AT THE SCHOOL.

SECONDARY

**HUISH EPISCOPI SCHOOL,
LANGPORT**

(11-16 mixed comprehensive, 1,150)

For September 1984, experienced teacher of

Applicants should be a graduate of the Department. Graduate preference. To assist in further development of Schools Councils 14-18 Geography Project work within the Department, and to take responsibilities for areas of field work. Applicants should apply by letter to the Head at the school, including full curriculum vitae and names of two professional referees. SAE for further particulars of school, post and detailed job description.

ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY SCHOOL, PRIORSWOOD, TAUNTON

(11-16 mixed comprehensive, 750. A Joint Church of England—Roman Catholic V.A. School) For September 1984.

I. Teacher of **MATHEMATICS**, Scale 1, To teach across the full ability range. Temporary appointment for one year – due to secondment.

II. Teacher of **ENGLISH and DRAMA**, Scale 1, to teach across the whole age and ability range. Temporary appointment for one year. In the final instance.

Closing date 5th March 1984.

**SYDENHAM SCHOOL,
BRIDGWATER**

(11–16 mixed comprehensive, 982)

For September 1984, experienced teacher to become **HEAD OF ECONOMICS**, Scale 2. Working knowledge of needlework and childcare courses to 'O' level – as well as home economics – an advantage as are tutorial skills. The

Department is thriving and well established in the school.

Applications by letter to the Head at the school, enclosing curriculum vitae and names of two referees.

Closing date 9th March 1984.

**COURT FIELDS SCHOOL,
WELLINGTON**

(11-16 mixed comprehensive, 800)

For September 1984, teacher of FRENCH, Scale 1. To teach up to CSE and 'O' level. Assistance with German would be helpful, but not essential. Temporary appointment for one year.

Closing date 6th March 1984.

PRIMARY

**CATCOTT COUNTY PRIMARY,
CATCOTT nr BRIDGWATER**

(178) For May 1984, Teacher for TOP INFANTS/
FIRST YEAR JUNIOR class. Temporary
appointment - until August 1985.
Closing date 5th March 1984. (9627)

**BRYNHYFRYD SCHOOL,
Ruthin**

Required for September 1984:
HEAD - GROUP XI
The Headship of this 11-18 comprehensive school, serving the rural, bilingual area of the southern Vale of Cynidr, falls vacant because of the retirement of the present incumbent. Applicants for this post should be fluently bilingual in English and Welsh.
Application forms and further details may be obtained from the under-signed, to whom completed forms should be returned by 8th March. (Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope).
YSGOL BRYNHAFRYD,
Rhuthun
(1,070 dleegybl)
Yn eiddau ar gyfer Medi 1984:
PRYNAETH GRŰP XI

PENNETH-Y-GWYF A'I
Daw swydd Pennaeth yf ysgol hon yn wag oherwydd
ymddedol y Pennaeth presennol. Ysgol Gyfun 11-18 oed.
Yw hi, yn gwasanaethu ardal wledig, dwyieithlog, deheol
Dyffryn Clwyd.

Dylai calonfryd am y swydd fod yn rhugl ddwyieithlog mewn
Cymraeg a Saesneg.

Gellir cael manylion pellach a chael lenni oddi wrth yr yr
a enwir iad, a dylid awgrymwyd iddo erbyn Mawrth
Sed. (Dylid angeti amlen weddi chytierio A1 stampio)

JOHN HOWARD DAVIES
Director of Education,
Gwynedd,
MOLD
15.2.84

CLWYD COUNTY COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT
EDUCATION

Commercial Subjects

Other Assistants

HERTFORDSHIRE

ST. MARGARET'S
SCHOOL

September 1984
Applications are invited for a part-time teacher of Commerce and Business Studies for a new department from September. There is a possibility of a full-time post for an applicant who would be willing to undertake a residential post in the school.

Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

COMPUTER STUDIES
PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

HMC Boys boarding and day
Required for September 1984, a young graduate with a Computer Studies qualification in either subject A or B. Excellent computer facilities already established.
Ability to coach ball games or rowing or sailing would be an advantage.
Applications with full curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, Pangbourne College, Reading RG8 5JH, from whom further details may be obtained. (54461) 189086

ETON COLLEGE

Head of Computing

Eton wishes to appoint a Head of Computing for September 1984. This is a new post, calling for ideas and initiative as well as computer experience. The subject is already well-established, but the person appointed will be expected to co-ordinate all computer activity within the school, to lead the team teaching computing and to advise on further policy in Computer Studies and in the use of computers by other Departments. Eton salary scale. Accommodation provided. Applications including curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees, should be sent to the Head Master, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire.

POCKLINGTON SCHOOL
Near York. HMC: 270 Boarders 350 Day
HEAD OF CRAFT,
DESIGN AND
TECHNOLOGY

Applications invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for this interesting and demanding post for September 1984. 'O' and 'A' level work besides 'core' curriculum teaching from ages 8-12. The Department has excelled a widespread reputation over the last decade and the successful candidate will be someone with a commitment to the busy demands of a Boarding School besides possessing the flair and imagination required for such an important post. Further details, including job specification, available from: The Headmaster, Pocklington School, West Green, Pocklington, York YO4 2NJ or telephone Pocklington 3125.

EAST SUSSEX
ST. BEDI'S SCHOOL

A co-educational school - entry at 13 plus. Main subjects: Mathematics, Science, English, History, Geography, Art, Music, PE, and Physical Education. A residential post is available. Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, St. Bede's School, East Sussex. (54461) 189086

HAMPSHIRE

North Foreland Lodge
Independent Girls Boarding School. 153 pupils. 11-18. Required for September 1984, a young graduate with a qualification in Computer Science or related subject at degree level. The school is equipped with a well-developed computer centre. Applications with full curriculum vitae and names of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, North Foreland Lodge, Basingstoke. (54461) 189086

Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

COMPUTER STUDIES
PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

HMC Boys boarding and day
Required for September 1984, a young graduate with a Computer Studies qualification in either subject A or B. Excellent computer facilities already established.
Ability to coach ball games or rowing or sailing would be an advantage.
Applications with full curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, Pangbourne College, Reading RG8 5JH, from whom further details may be obtained. (54461) 189086

LONDON
MORE HOUSE SCHOOL

Requires graduates to share in the teaching of Maths and Computer Studies. Main subjects: English, History, Geography, Art, Music, PE, and Physical Education. A residential post is available. Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, More House School, London. (54461) 189086

SURREY

KING EDWARD'S
SCHOOL
Witley (Godalming)
(HMC - co-educational; boarding: 550 pupils 11-18)
Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, King Edward's School, Witley. (54461) 189086

Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

COMPUTER STUDIES
PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

HMC Boys boarding and day
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Ability to coach ball games or rowing or sailing would be an advantage.
Applications with full curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, Pangbourne College, Reading RG8 5JH, from whom further details may be obtained. (54461) 189086

COVENTRY

COVENTRY SCHOOL

HMC co-educational day school. 810
Due to promotion within the Foundation, a well-qualified teacher of Mathematics is required in September at Coventry School. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

OXFORDSHIRE

ABINGDON SCHOOL

Independent H.M.C. 700 boys 11-18. Specialist Teacher of Design and Technology required. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

MONKTON COMBE SCHOOL

Bath

requires in September 1984

Head of Sixth Form

General Studies

The post offers an exciting challenge to a well qualified graduate with wide academic interests. Ability to teach ENGLISH to 'A' levels is essential. Willingness to coach sport, particularly rowing, and help with the CCF an advantage. A committed Christian keen on boarding school life is sought.
Applications to the Headmaster.

LONDON
ALLEYN'S SCHOOL

Required for September 1984, a well-qualified graduate to teach English and History. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

SURREY

KING EDWARD'S
SCHOOL
Witley (Godalming)
(HMC - co-educational; boarding: 550 pupils 11-18)
Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, King Edward's School, Witley. (54461) 189086

Computer Studies

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Required for September 1984, a young graduate with a Computer Studies qualification in either subject A or B. Excellent computer facilities already established.
Ability to coach ball games or rowing or sailing would be an advantage.
Applications with full curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, Pangbourne College, Reading RG8 5JH, from whom further details may be obtained. (54461) 189086

COVENTRY

COVENTRY SCHOOL

HMC co-educational day school. 810
Due to promotion within the Foundation, a well-qualified teacher of Mathematics is required in September at Coventry School. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

OXFORDSHIRE

ABINGDON SCHOOL

Independent H.M.C. 700 boys 11-18. Specialist Teacher of Design and Technology required. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

MONKTON COMBE SCHOOL

Bath

requires in September 1984

Head of Sixth Form

General Studies

The post offers an exciting challenge to a well qualified graduate with wide academic interests. Ability to teach ENGLISH to 'A' levels is essential. Willingness to coach sport, particularly rowing, and help with the CCF an advantage. A committed Christian keen on boarding school life is sought.
Applications to the Headmaster.

RUTLAND
ST. BEDI'S SCHOOL

A co-educational school - entry at 13 plus. Main subjects: Mathematics, Science, English, History, Geography, Art, Music, PE, and Physical Education. A residential post is available. Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, St. Bede's School, East Sussex. (54461) 189086

SURREY

KING EDWARD'S
SCHOOL
Witley (Godalming)
(HMC - co-educational; boarding: 550 pupils 11-18)
Applications with full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, King Edward's School, Witley. (54461) 189086

Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

COMPUTER STUDIES
PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

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Required for September 1984, a young graduate with a Computer Studies qualification in either subject A or B. Excellent computer facilities already established.
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Applications to the Headmaster.

STAFFORDSHIRE
Head of English

Required for September 1984, a well-qualified graduate to teach English and History. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

SURREY

KING EDWARD'S
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(HMC - co-educational; boarding: 550 pupils 11-18)
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Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

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PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

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Applications to the Headmaster.

INDEPENDENT
EDUCATION

Commercial Subjects

Other Assistants

HERTFORDSHIRE

ST. MARGARET'S
SCHOOL

September 1984
Applications are invited for a part-time teacher of Commerce and Business Studies for a new department from September. There is a possibility of a full-time post for an applicant who would be willing to undertake a residential post in the school.

Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

COMPUTER STUDIES
PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

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Applications to the Headmaster.

SURREY
KING EDWARD'S
SCHOOL

Required for September 1984, a well-qualified graduate to teach English and History. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

SURREY

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Witley (Godalming)
(HMC - co-educational; boarding: 550 pupils 11-18)
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Computer Studies

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Applications to the Headmaster.

DEVON
BLUNDELL'S SCHOOL

Required for September 1984, a well-qualified graduate to teach English and History. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

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Computer Studies

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Applications to the Headmaster.

WEST SUSSEX
LANCING COLLEGE

Required for September 1984, a well-qualified graduate to teach English and History. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

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Bath

requires in September 1984

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General Studies

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Applications to the Headmaster.

CLWYD
HOWELL'S SCHOOL

Required for September 1984, a well-qualified graduate to teach English and History. The school is a busy and well-equipped school with a large staff. Salary (scale 1) for a suitably experienced candidate. Details of the school in post.

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Witley (Godalming)
(HMC - co-educational; boarding: 550 pupils 11-18)
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Computer Studies

Other Assistants

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PANGBOURNE COLLEGE

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PREPARATORY continued

English

Heads of Department

SURREY
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 Hill Road, Molesey (12 years)
 A.P.S. Day School 236 boys
 Required for September 1984 an enthusiastic, experienced, qualified teacher who has a good knowledge of English and is able to teach the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Art, Music, P.E., and a foreign language. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall running of the school and will have a say in the selection of staff and the curriculum. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Hill Road, Molesey, Surrey, TW20 1JH. (0884) 205418

Other Assistants

DEVON

EXETER CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
 Palace Gate, Exeter, Devon
 I.A.P.S. Choral Schools Association boarding school
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to teach the subject in Common Entrance and Scholarship level. This is a resident post for a full-time teacher. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall running of the school and will have a say in the selection of staff and the curriculum. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Palace Gate, Exeter, Devon. (0392) 205418

GWENT

BOUQUENTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Gwent
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to teach the subject in Common Entrance and Scholarship level. This is a resident post for a full-time teacher. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall running of the school and will have a say in the selection of staff and the curriculum. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Bouquenton, Gwent. (0546) 205418

HAMPSHIRE

DURLEIGH COURT SCHOOL
 Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire
 I.A.P.S. Co-educational, 100 boys
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to teach the subject in Common Entrance and Scholarship level. This is a resident post for a full-time teacher. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall running of the school and will have a say in the selection of staff and the curriculum. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Durleigh Court, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire. (0703) 205418

NORTH YORKSHIRE

GROSVENOR HOUSE SCHOOL
 Wetherby, Yorkshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to teach the subject in Common Entrance and Scholarship level. This is a resident post for a full-time teacher. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall running of the school and will have a say in the selection of staff and the curriculum. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Grosvenor House, Wetherby, Yorkshire. (01937) 205418

SUNDERLAND

Teacher of English required for September 1984. Details from Headmaster, Sunderland School, Sunderland. (0755) 205418

Geography

Heads of Department

SOMERSET

ALL HALLOWS
 Cranmore Hall, East Cranmore, Somerset BA4 2JY
 Graduate as Head of Geography. Present holder appointed to Headship. Excellent academic standard. Ability to coach rugby or soccer. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, All Hallows, Cranmore Hall, East Cranmore, Somerset. (0358) 205418

Other Assistants

SOUTH GLAMORGAN

THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
 Llandaff, Cardiff CF4 3YH
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Geography to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, The Cathedral School, Llandaff, Cardiff. (01443) 205418

SURREY

THE HAWTHORNS
 100, P.O. Box 100, Surrey
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Geography to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, The Hawthorns, 100, P.O. Box 100, Surrey. (0884) 205418

Mathematics

Heads of Department

CHESHIRE

MOSTYN HOUSE SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Cheshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Mathematics to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Mostyn House School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Cheshire. (0564) 205418

LONDON

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHORAL SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, London
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Mathematics to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Westminster Cathedral Choral School, 100, P.O. Box 100, London. (01443) 205418

SHROPSHIRE

STEWART JUNIOR SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Shropshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Mathematics to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Stewart Junior School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Shropshire. (0564) 205418

SURREY

Teacher of Mathematics required for September 1984. Details from Headmaster, Surrey School, Surrey. (0884) 205418

SURREY

VARELEY MANOR
 100, P.O. Box 100, Surrey
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Vareley Manor, 100, P.O. Box 100, Surrey. (0884) 205418

Other Assistants

KENT

Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Kent School, Kent. (01443) 205418

LONDON

WESTMINSTER UNDER SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, London
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Westminster Under School, 100, P.O. Box 100, London. (01443) 205418

OXFORD

Teacher of Maths to boys from 9 to CE and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Oxford School, Oxford. (01865) 205418

Modern Languages

Heads of Department

CHESHIRE

MOSTYN HOUSE SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Cheshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Modern Languages to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Mostyn House School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Cheshire. (0564) 205418

LONDON

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHORAL SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, London
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Modern Languages to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Westminster Cathedral Choral School, 100, P.O. Box 100, London. (01443) 205418

SHROPSHIRE

STEWART JUNIOR SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Shropshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Modern Languages to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Stewart Junior School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Shropshire. (0564) 205418

SURREY

Teacher of Modern Languages required for September 1984. Details from Headmaster, Surrey School, Surrey. (0884) 205418

GLoucestershire

ROSE HILL SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Gloucestershire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Rose Hill School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Gloucestershire. (01453) 205418

Other Assistants

SOMERSET

MILFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Somerset
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Milfield Junior School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Somerset. (0358) 205418

SUFFOLK

ORWELL PARK SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Suffolk
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Orwell Park School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Suffolk. (01443) 205418

West Sussex

Required in September for the Junior School of a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, West Sussex School, West Sussex. (01443) 205418

BRIGHTON

RODEAN SCHOOL
 Brighton
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Rodean School, Brighton. (01273) 205418

SURREY

AMESBURY SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Surrey
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Amesbury School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Surrey. (0884) 205418

CHESHIRE

MOSTYN HOUSE SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Cheshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Mostyn House School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Cheshire. (0564) 205418

LONDON

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHORAL SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, London
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Westminster Cathedral Choral School, 100, P.O. Box 100, London. (01443) 205418

KENT

The music department of Dulwich College Preparatory School, Cranborne, which includes several choirs, orchestra, and bands, is seeking a qualified teacher of Music to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Dulwich College Preparatory School, Cranborne. (01443) 205418

Other Assistants

SUNDERLAND

Teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Sunderland School, Sunderland. (0755) 205418

Science

Heads of Department

KENYA

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT BANDS SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Kenya
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Bands to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Bands School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Kenya. (01443) 205418

Other Assistants

ANGUS

SCOTTISH EAST COAST LATHALLAN SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Angus
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Scottish East Coast Lathallan School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Angus. (01443) 205418

Other Assistants

BRIGHTON

RODEAN SCHOOL
 Brighton
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Rodean School, Brighton. (01273) 205418

Other Assistants

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Other Assistants

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Other Assistants

Other Assistants

Other Assistants

Other Assistants

Other Assistants

Other Assistants

Other Assistants

Religious Education

Other Assistants

SUNDERLAND

Teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Sunderland School, Sunderland. (0755) 205418

Science

Heads of Department

KENYA

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT BANDS SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Kenya
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of Bands to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Bands School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Kenya. (01443) 205418

Other Assistants

ANGUS

SCOTTISH EAST COAST LATHALLAN SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Angus
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Scottish East Coast Lathallan School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Angus. (01443) 205418

Other Assistants

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SCOTTISH EAST COAST LATHALLAN SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Angus
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Scottish East Coast Lathallan School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Angus. (01443) 205418

Other Assistants

ANGUS

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PREP SCHOOLS continued

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Teacher required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Buckinghamshire School, Buckinghamshire. (01443) 205418

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

KIMBOLTON SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Cambridgeshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Kimbolton School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Cambridgeshire. (01443) 205418

CLEVELAND

HOUSE SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Cleveland
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, House School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Cleveland. (01443) 205418

GLoucestershire

Teacher required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Gloucestershire School, Gloucestershire. (01443) 205418

OLDHAM

THE BULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
 100, P.O. Box 100, Oldham
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, The Bulme Grammar School for Girls, 100, P.O. Box 100, Oldham. (01443) 205418

SHROPSHIRE

MOOR PARK
 100, P.O. Box 100, Shropshire
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Moor Park, 100, P.O. Box 100, Shropshire. (0564) 205418

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KENYA

RANDA SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Kenya
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Randa School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Kenya. (01443) 205418

LONDON

ST. OLAVE'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, London
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, St. Olave's Preparatory School, 100, P.O. Box 100, London. (01443) 205418

MIDDLESEX

DENHAM SCHOOL
 100, P.O. Box 100, Middlesex
 Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Denham School, 100, P.O. Box 100, Middlesex. (01443) 205418

WILTSHIRE

Teacher required for September 1984 a qualified teacher of English to C.E. and P.E. level. A recommendation to the school is essential. Salary £20,000 p.a. plus pension. Applications to the Headmaster, Wiltshire School, Wiltshire. (01443) 205418

THE DESIGNATED SCHOOLS BOARD - MALAWI

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE DESIGNATED SCHOOLS BOARD

The post entails overall supervision of the administration of the Secretariat, organisation of the appointment of teaching and administrative staff within the schools, and keeping a close relationship with the Ministry of Education and Culture, and the Headmasters of the five schools (4 Primary and 1 Secondary) administered by the Board.

Applicants should be over 40 years of age and have qualifications and experience in at least one of the following fields:

- Education, Educational administration or related experience.
- Business administration, i.e. have held a senior post in Commerce or managed a business.

A knowledge of accountancy would be an advantage but is not essential. Salary will be in the region of MK20,000 per year according to qualification and experience. Appointment on contract includes terminal gratuity and leave pay.

Application should be addressed to:

The Chairman of the General Purposes Committee,
Designated Schools Board,
P.O. Box 5089,
Lilongwe,
Malawi.

(9021)

OVERSEAS

continued

GREECE

TEACHERS IN GREECE
P.T.C. teachers required for September 1984. Applicants must possess a degree, preferably English, and/or teacher-training qualifications. Interviews will be held in Manchester and London. Apply with curriculum vitae, recent photograph and a self-addressed envelope to Teachers in Greece, 28-33, Tinsley Road, London, N16 9JL. Tel: (0855) 52031. From whom further details can be obtained. (54663) 460000

GREECE

TEACHERS FOR GREECE
Graduate teachers of English, with teaching experience, are required for a school of English in the city of Athens. Write immediately with c.v. Photo and Tel. number to: P.O. Box 5089, Lilongwe, Malawi. (9021)

ITALY

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF FLORENCE

"LE TAVERNULE"

seeking for September 1984. BACHELOR, preferably able to offer Chemistry at Secondary School level.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE experience an advantage. Apply with CV and names and addresses of 3 referees to: Boyd Roberts, 15, Coordinator, St. Clara's, 139, Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7AL. Tel: (0865) 52031. From whom further details can be obtained. (54663) 460000

KUWAIT

KUWAIT for September 1984. primary head teacher for a new international school (5A to 9 years). Applications are invited from experienced teachers with a minimum of 5 years' experience. Please forward full c.v. recent photograph and testimonials to Mr. A. Court (Task) European House, The World Trade Centre, London E16 1UN. (54663) 460000

International School - Brunei

This leading English medium primary school in the State capital for expatriate and local children requires for September 1984, or earlier a

Teaching Couple

The ideal candidates will be childless, have 5-8 years' experience and should be able to offer between them:- Infant and Upper Primary experience, Science to Common Entrance, the ability to play guitar or other instrument. One at least should preferably be a Scale Post holder, as there is a possibility of a future Administrative position.

Initial 2 year contract. Return fares, rent-free house with utilities. Medical insurance, interest-free car loan. Tax-free salaries in the range £8,000 to £10,000 p.a. approx. at current rate of exchange plus terminal gratuity.

For details and application form please telephone urgently Miss T. Atkins, Gabbitts-Thring Services Ltd., Broughton House, 6, 7 & 8, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, London, W1X 2BR. Tel: 01-734-0161. (2428)

Gabbitts-Thring

THE SANDFORD ENGLISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

This Independent, Multi-national School, established in 1948 and having as its prime function the provision of education for children of the many representative nationalities resident in Addis Ababa, requires teaching staff as detailed below for the 1984/85 Session.

The School has a student complement of some 700 between the ages 4 and 18 years, in Infant, Junior and Senior Divisions.

An English based education is provided from the infant stage onwards and University of London G.C.E. as well as Local Examinations are taken. Applications are invited from well qualified teachers with experience in the following fields, to commence duties with effect from 1st September 1984.

INFANT DIVISION

Class teachers for ages 4 yrs to 7 yrs.

JUNIOR DIVISION

Class teachers for ages 8 yrs to 11 yrs.

SENIOR DIVISION

MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH, SCIENCE, HISTORY: BOYS SPORT. Initial contracts are for two years and these are renewable. Salaries are in the scale 21,420-33,688 Ethiopian Birr gross per annum according to experience. The present January 1984 rate of exchange is 2.9 Birr equals one (1) pound Sterling.

Free air transportation with baggage allowance is provided at beginning and end of contract and a return air fare to Kenya is provided in mid-contract for leave. Furnished accommodation is provided and medical expenses, excluding dental treatment, within Ethiopia are paid by the School.

Conditions could be particularly beneficial to married couples who both teach. Letters of application, with detailed curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, Sandford English Community School, P.O. Box 30088 MA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, by AIR MAIL to reach Addis Ababa not later than 31st March, 1984.

Interviews will be conducted in UK by the Headmaster in April 1984. (2428)

Kobe Japan International School

Required for September 1984 for a private school providing an education in English for children of the international community.

Kindergarten Teacher

Candidates - Should be single females qualified with 3 years experience of teaching infants. Ability to play the piano for class activities is essential. Willingness to assist with extra curricular activities an advantage.

Previous overseas residence and experience of E.F.L. teaching desirable. Age range 24-40 (approx.).

Salary and Conditions - Local scale commencing at £6,400 (at current exchange rate) plus bonus. Accommodation provided. Two year contract - renewable. Return air fare paid.

For further details and an application form please apply to: Mr. F. J. Smith, Gabbitts-Thring Services Ltd., Broughton House, 6, 7 & 8, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, London, W1X 2BR. Tel: 01-734-0161. (2428)

Gabbitts-Thring

OVERSEAS

continued

KUWAIT

September 1984 infant for 14 teachers required. Single teachers and married couples. Photograph. Please send curriculum vitae and contact Tel. No. to Mrs. S. J. Smith, Director, G.E.S. 270, V. V. Road, 8, Katherine by the Sea, P.O. Box 12345, Kuwait. Salary free. (54663) 460000

CHRISTIAN TEACHERS

Needed for Secondary Schools in Africa and New Zealand. Challenging work. Volunteer positions. Missionary Movement, Shenley Lane, London, Colney, Herts, AL5 1AR. (16398) 460000

ITALY

ROME

A progressive international day school with English curriculum requires for September 1984, well qualified and committed teachers, preferably with two years' experience. For the following posts: 1. English teacher, 2. English teacher, 3. English teacher, 4. English teacher, 5. English teacher, 6. English teacher, 7. English teacher, 8. English teacher, 9. English teacher, 10. English teacher, 11. English teacher, 12. English teacher, 13. English teacher, 14. English teacher, 15. English teacher, 16. English teacher, 17. English teacher, 18. English teacher, 19. English teacher, 20. English teacher, 21. English teacher, 22. English teacher, 23. English teacher, 24. English teacher, 25. English teacher, 26. English teacher, 27. English teacher, 28. English teacher, 29. English teacher, 30. English teacher, 31. English teacher, 32. English teacher, 33. English teacher, 34. English teacher, 35. English teacher, 36. English teacher, 37. English teacher, 38. English teacher, 39. 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Department of Education and Science HM Inspectors of Schools

Applications are invited from men and women, preferably aged between 35 and 45, for appointments as HM Inspectors of Schools. HM Inspectors of Schools are part of both general and specialist assignments and provide advice to the Department and throughout the education system. Current vacancies are for specialists in:

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Home Economics: Ref 3/84

Candidates should have good specialist qualifications and substantial experience of teaching Home Economics in schools. Experience at a senior level in schools, or in teacher training or of advisory work would be an advantage.

Music: Ref 4/84

Candidates should have a degree or an equivalent qualification in music. It is essential that they should have substantial experience of teaching music in schools. It would be an advantage to have had some experience of teaching music in multi-ethnic schools. Relevant experience in teacher training institutions or in the advisory service would be an additional advantage.

Candidates with experience in industry or in careers other than education may apply, but it is important that they should normally have completed at least 6 years teaching of the relevant subject.

Those appointed will have opportunities to take part with other HMI in work related to current developments such as the Lower Attaining Pupils Programme, the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative, and the White Paper on Teaching Quality.

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Art and Design: Ref 5/84

Candidates should have good specialist qualifications and experience of teaching fine art, or photography, or film and television studies, or design, or graphics in further and higher education. Experience is sought in the teaching of these subjects in single or combined subject degrees, DATEC, and in the application of these subjects to the education of teachers and other professions.

Business and Management Studies: Ref 6/84

Candidates should have academic or professional qualifications in a major aspect of business or management studies.

Teaching experience in a senior post in further or higher education is essential and experience of employment outside the education service is desirable. For some of the vacancies a professional qualification in accounting or company secretarialship is desirable. Recent experience of introductory pre-vocational and adult retraining programmes sponsored by the MSC, the LEAs and other agencies will be an advantage.

Economics: Ref 7/84

Candidates should have good specialist qualifications, and experience of teaching economics and related disciplines in further and higher education. Experience is sought in teaching the subject in single, joint honours or combined subject degrees, and in the application of the subject in business studies, and to the education of teachers and other professions.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND TEACHER TRAINING

Social Science: Ref 8/84

Candidates should have appropriate qualifications and substantial and varied experience of teaching in sociology, psychology, social policy or social administration.

Experience is sought in the teaching of the subjects in single, joint honours or combined subject degrees, and/or in the application of the subjects to the education of teachers and other professions.

Humanities: Ref 9/84

Candidates should have appropriate qualifications and substantial and varied experience in the teaching of English, History, Geography, French or Drama in higher education, in relevant single, joint honours or combined subject degrees, or in the training of teachers.

Qualified teacher status and experience of teaching in schools would be additional qualifications for some of these posts.

Starting salary for all posts is within the range £15,800-£20,800 (higher in London). Retention expenses of up to £3,000 may be payable.

Application forms to be returned as soon as possible (and not later than 9 March 1984) may be obtained from Mr E. D. Foster, Department of Education and Science, Room 18/17, Elizabeth House, 39 York Road, London SE1 7PH, telephone 01-928 9222, extension 2786 or 2237.

Please quote the appropriate reference.

(14209)

ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

continued

INTENSIVE INTERVIEWING - EARN £700 FIVE WEEKS FROM 20TH AUGUST 1984

Graduates (age immaterial) required for temporary appointments as COLLEGE REGISTRARS near the British Museum. The work is interviewing and advising prospective entrants to 'A' level courses. You will need to be literate, confident, articulate, presentable, efficient and adaptable. Selection interview in London by appointment. Please write with full length photo and personal details to:

Mrs. M.J. Meakins
Assistant Principal
Davies's College
86 Southampton Row,
LONDON WC1B 4BY.

(6010)

The Chartered Institute of Building EXAMINATIONS OFFICER

The Chartered Institute of Building, having a membership of about 28,000 and examining about 3,500 candidates annually intends to appoint an Examinations Officer designate to succeed the present incumbent on his forthcoming retirement. The person appointed will be jointly responsible with the Examinations Officer for the administration of the Institute's examinations including servicing the Examinations Board and its panels, liaison with educational establishments, the preparation of examinations question papers and results, the production and publication of statistics and the supervision of clerical staff.

Administrative ability is essential as is the capacity to work accurately under pressure. Experience in examinations administration and technical knowledge of building is desirable but not essential.

The successful applicant will probably possess a relevant degree and/or professional qualification but will, at least, possess 'A' levels in English and Mathematics. Salary circa £9,000 per annum. Other benefits include a non-contributory life assurance and pension scheme, private medical insurance, subsidised lunches, 23 days holiday annual and the use of sports facilities.

Please write or telephone for more information and an application form to the Personnel Officer, The Chartered Institute of Building, Englefield, Kings Ride, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 8BJ, Ascot (0990) 23355.



(2454)



PART-TIME EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST (SIX SESSIONS PER WEEK)

A part-time vacancy is available, from 1st July 1984, for a fully qualified Educational Psychologist, to join the South Cheshire District Team in the County's recently re-structured school psychological service.

Applications from candidates currently on postgraduate training courses will be considered.

Informal enquiries to Mr M. E. Gladhill, Principal Educational Psychologist, County Hall, Chester. Tel: 602417.

Further particulars and application forms from the Director of Education, Cheshire County Council, County Hall, Chester. Tel: 602326.

Closing date 12th March 1984.

(2024)

EDUCATION

Educational Psychologists (2 posts)

Salary: £8,454-£14,253

Applications are invited for two full-time posts in the County.

Post 1 is permanent, based in Watford. This vacancy arises from the appointment of the present post-holder to another authority. The post will be vacant from 1st May, or as soon as possible thereafter. Preference will be given to candidates with experience as educational psychologists. This post is based in a Child Guidance Clinic.

Post 2 is temporary whilst the current post-holder is on maternity leave. It will be based in St. Albans and will commence on 1st July.

Applicants should have a good Honours degree in Psychology, adequate and relevant teaching experience and have recognised training as educational psychologists.

Informal enquiries to Miss D. Gibbs, Principal Educational Psychologist (Henford 54242 Ext. 5009).

Further details and application forms from the County Education Officer (Ref: RAW), Education Department, County Hall, Henford SG13 8DF, to be returned not later than Friday 18th March.

(2411)



Hertfordshire
County Council

American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS

Interesting, rewarding job looking after American students studying in London. Pastoral and organisational skills essential.

Salary £5,000 plus accommodation and meals, plus nine weeks holiday.

Applicants should be available by 1st June or 15th August.

Apply in writing with c.v. to:

Anne Waters, AIFS
37 Queens Gate, London SW7 5HR
Tel: 01-881 2733

Social Services

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SANDWELL SOUTH DEPARTMENT

Social Worker - Child Guidance
Grade 9, W. Qualified
27,650 to 29,000
Unqualified 26,018 to 27,400

The person appointed will be either qualified or experienced and will work in a comprehensive psychological service which helps parents and their children who have problems at home or in the school. The successful applicant will join a team of Educational Psychologists, Social Workers, Remedial and other staff. The post will be dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Closing date 16th March 1984.

Requests and enquiries (quoting ref. 24/84) for application forms should be made to the Personnel Officer, Sandwell Council, 175 West Bromwich Road, West Bromwich B70 8BX. Sandwell Council is an equal opportunity employer.

South Western Examinations Board
25-29 Marsh Street, Bristol
B5 1AB

VACANCIES FOR C.S.E. EXAMINATIONS
1984: CHIEF EXAMINER IN COMMERCE
1985: CHIEF EXAMINER IN ECONOMICS

CHIEF EXAMINER IN ECONOMICS (1 Examination)
CHIEF EXAMINER IN COMMERCE (1 Examination)
The Chief Examiner for an examination based on the syllabus of the subject.

Applications are invited for the above named posts. The Chief Examiner is responsible for the drafting of the question paper, the marking scheme and for the coordination of script marking. He/she will also play a full part in the awarding procedure and will be required to attend meetings of the Subject Panel.

The Chief Moderator in Economics will have the same responsibilities and will also be in overall charge of the examination process including determination of standards in both marks and mode 3 examinations.

Further details and application forms may be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed DL size envelope marked with the post applied for (no letter is necessary) to the Secretary to the Board. Completed application forms should be returned not later than 31st March 1984.

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD (S4604) TO 600000

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CHIEF EXAMINER IN ECONOMICS (1 Examination)

MISCELLANEOUS

continued

LONDON
Principal required for Principal College opening in September 1984. The college is a day school for boys aged 11-18. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the school, including the staff, the curriculum, and the financial aspects. The college is situated in a prime location in central London. Salary: £12,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Principal College, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0ET.

SURREY
THE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION has vacancies for the following posts:
1. **WINDING AND VALVE** - £10,000 per annum.
2. **FOOT GUARDS** - £10,000 per annum.
3. **WINDING AND VALVE** - £10,000 per annum.
4. **FOOT GUARDS** - £10,000 per annum.
5. **WINDING AND VALVE** - £10,000 per annum.
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25. **WINDING AND VALVE** - £10,000 per annum.
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Outdoor Education

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PORTCRAWL

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L. J. A. Cule, Director of Education, Education Office, Kingsway, Cardiff. (0303)

A new principal is to be appointed to co-ordinate and control all aspects of the work of the College with particular emphasis on its further development and the marketing of College services in the UK and overseas.

This is a challenging and rewarding role in professional education and training. The person appointed will attend meetings of the Board of Governors of the College, assist them in the formulation of College policy and carry the primary responsibility for its implementation.

Applicants should be committed to achieving standards of excellence in educational and training activities, and should possess leadership ability, be able to deal with top managers and have financial expertise.

The exact background of applicants is less important than their personal qualities but Fellowship of the Chartered Insurance Institute or other relevant professional or academic qualifications will be expected. The preferred age range is 35-50 years.

An attractive salary and other fringe benefits by negotiation. Relocation expenses will be paid if appropriate. For further details please write, in confidence, enclosing a brief curriculum vitae, to: The Secretary-General, The Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HY.

The closing date for applications is 30 March 1984.

The College of Insurance, in Sevenoaks, conducts over 40 different technical and management courses in a variety of locations. In 1983 some 2,500 students attended its courses and conferences, run by the ten tutorial staff and a large number of visiting lecturers. The College also operates a highly successful media resources unit supplying training programmes to the industry.

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Employment and Learning through Adventure. Multi-activity specialist courses and/or field studies. Open all year. Prices from £6.50 per night. This best people, activities, equipment and value with from three places. For further details write to: The Skern Lodge Adventure Centre, Skern Lodge, Skern, Devon, PL20 8JG. Tel: 0392 5892 or 0392 5893. (05455)

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